

Top E. German party leader quits

EAST BERLIN (AP) — A top Communist Party official resigned Saturday and accused the East German leadership of being incapable of leading the reform movement. Leading another blow to embattled party chief Egon Krenz, Central Committee Secretary Hans-Joachim Willebrandt told the official ADN news agency that he doubted the current leadership could unite and guide the drive for democratic change and economic recovery. "Renewal is possible only when the Communist Party leads with unity and determination," Willebrandt was quoted by ADN as saying. His resignation followed a tumultuous parliamentary session Friday, when lawmakers disclosed that top party officials had taken bribes, included themselves with luxuries at state expense and stolen away more than 100 billion marks (\$54 billion) in Swiss bank accounts. Willebrandt called for swift and thorough action against those guilty of misusing their authority. Willebrandt had been named a secretary of the party's policy-making central committee and a candidate, or non-voting, member of the ruling Politburo less than a month ago, after the top officials of ousted leader Erich Honecker's government were forced to resign. Lawmakers Friday heard a litany of corruption allegations by Honecker and his aides while the rest of the nation led a Spartan existence.

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Sentences passed in fat cases

AMMAN (J.T.) — The military court Saturday passed sentences in a case involving smuggling, selling, buying and using in foodstuffs of unprocessed raw fat. Of the 127 accused in the case, six were tried in absentia. Of the 121 present in court 115 were found guilty and six were pronounced innocent because of lack of evidence. Some were sentenced to jail terms ranging from three months to three years and some were jailed as well as fined up to JD 500. Five factories, six restaurants and six bakeries were ordered closed. Five sewage trucks used to smuggle the fat were confiscated. Hundreds of people attended the court's verdict session, which came after several weeks of hearing at a makeshift courtroom at the police academy in Tabarha in the suburbs of the capital. Drivers of vehicles transporting the fat were given the harshest sentences because, according to the president of the court, "they were the main element in distributing" the smuggled fat.

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House finalises reply to King's speech

Government frees 48 security detainees

By Suhair Obeidat
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The government Saturday released 48 political detainees in what was seen as another major stride towards increased political freedoms after the Nov. 8 general elections to the Lower House of Parliament.

The announcement of the release was made by Lower House Speaker Sulaiman Arar during the first regular House session after His Majesty King Hussein opened Parliament Nov. 27.

The session was convened to discuss, amend and approve the House's reply to the King's speech from the Throne. Arar said the release of the detainees, half of whom belonged to the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP) detained in October, came in line with a directive from King Hussein. There was no immediate explanation to a discrepancy in the number of detainees. According to an official statement issued at that time, only 12 PFLP members were detained in October for security reasons.

The release was interpreted by political analysts as the fulfilment of a pledge that the King has made to allow political parties to operate in the Kingdom after a 32-year hiatus. During Saturday's session, the full House heard the draft prepared by a special House committee in reply to the King's speech from the Throne. As the session began, it appeared that the deputies had prepared themselves for very lengthy discussions of each paragraph and even each sentence of the 23 pages of the reply.

Starting at about 10 a.m., the session ended at 7:45 p.m. with three breaks for prayers and lunch. The drawn-out session included many instances when deputies strayed from the main theme of the session. Abdul Ra'uf Al Rawabdeh kept on reminding his colleagues of the need to stick to the point, saying that they will come to other matters in due time.

Not many alterations to the reply draft were approved though many were suggested. Most of the suggestions did not opt for fundamental changes in the text, rather on the linguistic style, which resulted in very lengthy discussions of terminologies in the text. Each point was put to vote and majority decisions prevailed.

According to a draft available to the Jordan Times, the House called for ending martial law and revising a 1955 legislation which grants wide powers to the executive authorities. Another demand was for the establishment of a constitutional court and measures to strengthen the independence of the judiciary.

It condemned American support for Israel, urged strengthening of the Armed Forces and called for a faster democratic process.

"The House" condemns the United States' policy which throws every international decision that condemns Israel or supports just Arab causes," it said.

It called on the King to provide the Armed Forces with "total support, training and modern equipment and weapons to enable it to perform its sacred task of defending the country and liberating all the (occupied) territories."

The House endorsed the King's July 1988 decision to never legalise and administrative decision that the Bank, stressing that the decision did not mean that Jordan was abandoning the Palestinian cause. It pledged Jordan's constant support for the Palestinian uprising and the entire Palesti-

nian cause. The Nov. 8 elections in Jordan "displayed the awareness of our people and undermined the chances of those who call for a substitute Palestinian homeland in Jordan," the House said.

On the economic front, the House said it felt that "we should look into the reasons that led to the economic crisis and pinpoint responsibility and roles to ensure that the tragedy will not be repeated and the people are confident that their march is in the right direction."

The House welcomed moves undertaken by the Central Bank of Jordan (CBJ) to address the economic situation and underlined the need to maintain the CBJ's independence and its control over banks and other financial institutions. It specifically referred to what it described as "the past errors of the Central Bank and Petra Bank" and said "it is necessary to reveal the facts."

The House called for increased attention to be paid to utilisation of local material in industries and improvement in production in quality as well as quantity.

It expressed concern over "the non-economic reasons leading to rising (consumer) prices which exceeded the level of the decline of the Jordanian dinar."

The reference in the draft to the national charter proposed by His Majesty King Hussein remained unchanged although heated discussions preceded its approval. The points of contention included whether or not the House should draft or contribute to the drafting of the charter since the King has said that a royal commission will be entrusted with the task. The House reply, as approved, said the assembly hoped to contribute to drafting the charter. The King has said that the charter will be presented to the people for a referendum, and deputies also debated this point



Point of order... Deputy Laith Shabbat gestures to the speaker for permission to speak during Saturday's session of the Lower House (Photo by Yusef Al 'Alam)

arguing whether the plebiscite should be held before or after Parliament approves the charter.

After failing to reach consensus on a delegation to present the reply to the King at an audience Sunday, it was decided that the entire House would attend.

The next regular session of the House will be held Wednesday when the various committees of the assembly will be elected. These include the administrative, financial, legal and foreign affairs committees.

In the meantime, a petition signed by at least 14 deputies was being circulated calling for a national holiday on Dec. 9, to mark the beginning of the third year of the Palestinian uprising in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Israelis wound 36 in Gaza Strip

OCCUPIED GAZA (Agencies)

— Israeli troops shot and wounded at least 36 Palestinians in the occupied Gaza Strip Saturday during protests against the army's killing of four Palestinians, hospitals reported.

"It's very hot. It's like the early days of the intifada," an Arab witness in Gaza told Reuters. "There are mass marches and schoolchildren are protesting and refusing to go to their classes."

Shops across the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip closed in a spontaneous strike over the Friday killings, residents said. Businesses in Arab Jerusalem were already shut in protest at the earlier shooting of two brothers by the army.

In the Gaza Strip, hospital officials said 36 Palestinians had been brought in with gunshot wounds following clashes with Israeli troops.

In the West Bank, the 120,000 residents of Nablus and three adjoining refugee camps were confined to their homes under an army curfew, the spokeswoman said.

Israel radio said Israeli Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin praised the army operation in Nablus in which the four Palestinians were killed and three wounded. The soldiers were dis-

guised in Arab dress, residents said.

The army said all the dead and wounded were members of the Black Panthers group, and the leader was among the dead. But Palestinian sources in Nablus said it was not clear all the dead were Black Panthers.

The ambush was the most spectacular action so far in a drive by the Israeli forces against Palestinian activists who attack fellow Arabs suspected of aiding the Israeli occupation authorities.

Palestinian sources quoted witnesses as saying soldiers attacked the Panthers in a barber's shop in the old Casbah (market). No Israeli soldiers were hurt.

The ambush in the congested town centre ignited protests, but the radio quoted Major-General Yitzhak Mordechai, commander of the West Bank, as saying the killings would reduce tension.

Nablus is a centre of nationalist activity and the leader of a group similar to the Panthers, the Red Eagles, was shot dead in an army raid on his hideout near the city last month.

Palestinian leaders have warned activists of the two-year-old uprising not to let inter-Arab violence spiral out of control.

In the West Bank town of Ramallah, a 20-year-old youth

from a village near Jenin, Hamed Hamdan Hussein, died Friday night of bullet wounds received three weeks ago, hospital officials said.

In Nablus, witnesses said soldiers wearing Arab robes and Palestinian headscarves arrived at the entrance to Nablus' old city in a red Mercedes with West Bank license plates.

Seven soldiers got out of the car near the Ajaj Mosque, then opened fire into a barber shop about 40 metres from the mosque, said a witness who gave his first name as Nizar.

He said soldiers later carried out several bodies on stretchers. An Arab journalist in the city said hundreds of shots were heard in the area of the mosque at about 11:30 a.m. (0930 GMT).

In an official statement, the army said its forces confronted a Palestinian squad armed with a loaded M-16 assault rifle and several pistols. They said the soldiers opened fire before the Arabs were able to let off a shot.

An Arab doctor from the Red Crescent Society, who arrived with an ambulance to pick up the injured, said an Israeli army officer told him: "You are not going to take any casualties... I killed all the Black Panthers."

Hrawi delays assault on Baabda French legislators visit Aoun in show of support

BEIRUT (AP) — Eight French lawmakers arrived in Lebanon Saturday to declare support for sacked army chief Michel Aoun against the feared Syrian attack to dislodge him from the presidential palace east of Beirut.

The right-wing parliamentarians did not make any statements when they arrived at the shell-wrecked palace in suburban Baabda.

They held a brief meeting with Aoun, then joined a dance with some of the thousands of Christian youths camped in the pine woods around the palace since Tuesday to raise the ante if Syria decides to attack Aoun.

Before leaving Paris, a statement said the eight were heading to Lebanon to "assure a permanent French elected presence by the side of the Lebanese resistance."

Earlier this week 33 right-wing French parliament members visited the Christian enclave for 24 hours to declare support for Aoun. He has refused to leave the presidential palace after President Elias Hrawi was elected by

parliament at a hotel in east Lebanon.

The Voice of the Nation radio said the final decision on how to evict Aoun from the palace would be taken next week.

It said Hrawi agreed to delay the move in an effort to prevent bloodshed.

"But if Aoun refuses to end his mutiny peacefully, then the proper decision will be taken," the radio said.

British Ambassador John Alann Ramsay also counselled a "solution through peaceful means."

Ramsay made the brief remark after a 30-minute meeting with Hrawi at the latter's residence in a Lebanese army barracks in the eastern Bekaa Valley.

Al Nahar, an independent daily, quoted Hrawi as saying an assault to dislodge Aoun from the presidential palace has been delayed at the request of a "number of Arab and foreign states" that he did not identify.

But at a news conference Thursday, Hrawi said: "The day

of judgment is very near." Hrawi, a Maronite like Aoun, he stressed that he hoped Aoun would leave the palace peacefully.

Hrawi's remark coincided with a buildup of Syrian tanks, artillery, and commando forces around the 800-square-kilometre Christian enclave in apparent preparation for an assault to dislodge Aoun.

Aoun, 54, has rejected Hrawi's election by parliament more than a week ago as well as the peace plan, worked out by Lebanese legislators meeting last month in Taif, Saudi Arabia.

A government source said France was mediating in the conflict between Aoun and Hrawi by proposing to freeze certain controversial clauses in the Taif accord. He would not specify which clauses nor indicate how freezing them might help.

The foreign ministers of Algeria, Morocco and Saudi Arabia — who drafted the peace plan — will meet in Riyadh Sunday to discuss the situation in Lebanon, the Saudi Press Agency reported.

'Productive, substantial' talks in Malta

VALLETTA (Agencies) — U.S.

President George Bush and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev had a very productive, informal and substantive meeting in their first summit encounter on Saturday, the White House said.

White House spokesman Martin Fitzwater said their talks aboard the Soviet liner Moskva in Malta harbour went on for five hours and Bush proposed more than a dozen ideas for economic and political progress in U.S.-Soviet relations.

Gorbachev spoke at length on his perestroika reform programme to overhaul the Soviet system and Bush emphasised his support for its success.

The first meeting of the two-day shipboard summit took place on the Maxim Gorky, a Soviet luxury liner, after stormy weather forced cancellation of plans to meet aboard a smaller Soviet warship.

Bush returned to his headquarters on the USS Belknap following the initial sessions. The White House said an afternoon round of talks were put on hold because of the bad weather, which kept Bush

from immediately leaving the Belknap.

Fitzwater said Bush had been watching the storm from the bridge of the Belknap and considering the alternatives for further summit talks Saturday night and Sunday.

The spokesman said the weather had not stopped Bush keeping in touch with the White House and world events.

"President Bush has been in contact with officials in Washington. All communications aboard Belknap are working," Fitzwater said.

"The president has received an update on the situation in the Philippines and has discussed other international issues."

The White House said the opening talks included a "very productive, informal and substantive meeting."

"The meetings were sparked by a spirit of forward-looking cooperation during these increasingly changing times," it said.

"President Bush spoke for more than an hour to open the meeting, laying out more than a dozen

ideas for economic and political progress in U.S.-Soviet relations," the statement said.

"Chairman Gorbachev spoke at length of perestroika and the goals of his reform programme," it said.

There was no immediate Soviet comment on the first session. U.S. Secretary of State James Baker had called the meeting an "excellent beginning."

Arms control, East-West trade and the dramatic democratic reforms sweeping Eastern Europe were expected to dominate the agenda for the Bush-Gorbachev talks, which both leaders said they hoped would strengthen the prospects for world peace and European unity.

Senior Soviet officials said Gorbachev wants the summit to produce a timetable for completing U.S.-Soviet treaties on reducing strategic nuclear weapons, conventional forces in central Europe and chemical weapons.

The officials, who spoke only on condition of not being identified, said Gorbachev would convene a meeting of Warsaw Pact leaders in Moscow Monday to

discuss the results of the two-day summit. Bush will spend Monday briefing allied leaders at NATO headquarters in Brussels, Belgium.

Shipboard ceremonies officially opening the summit were cancelled because of the inclement weather.

Bush and Gorbachev shook hands aboard the white Soviet passenger cruise ship, which is docked at a pier in Marsaxlokk bay off Malta's rocky southeastern coast. The U.S. president travelled by launch from the Belknap, his summit residence.

Gorbachev joked that the strong winds were part of a Soviet effort to destroy the U.S. Sixth Fleet in the Mediterranean.

"Let's go to work," Bush was overheard saying as they went inside to begin their discussions.

Both men were smiling as they clasped hands again across a long rectangular table, measuring barely a meter across, in a library-like room known as the card room. Also present were top aides such as Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze and Baker.

U.N. vote on PLO status postponed

UNITED NATIONS (Agencies)

— Voting on a controversial resolution to upgrade the U.N. status of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) has been postponed until Monday.

The United States has threatened to withhold its U.N. dues if the General Assembly upgrades the PLO delegation from that of an observer organisation to an observer state, on a par with countries such as Switzerland and North and South Korea.

The United States is obligated to pay 25 per cent of the U.N.'s annual budget of some \$850 million, though it is \$430 million in arrears for this and previous years.

Arab League Ambassador Clovis Makoud said the resolution was put off until Monday to allow non-aligned nations to receive voting instructions.

Makoud announced the postponement after representatives

from the 22 Arab League states held a private meeting and picked Monday as the date for a vote.

"This is final, categorical and unequivocal," said Makoud.

Western diplomats, speaking privately, said time was on the side of the 12 European Community (EC) nations and Nordic countries that are trying to derail or indefinitely delay the resolution.

As a member of the 102-member Non-Aligned Movement, the PLO theoretically has more than enough votes to prevail on a simple majority vote in the 159-member General Assembly.

Western diplomats, however, say any vote will be extremely close.

"We're sending cars around to the small U.N. missions, especially from the Caribbean, to make sure they're all there to vote," said one Western diplomat, speaking on condition of anonymity.

Rebels spurn Aquino demand

MANILA (Agencies) — Govern-

ment warplanes and helicopters pounded mutineers Saturday, but rebels seized a luxury hotel and other buildings despite demands by President Corason Aquino that they "surrender or die."

Military chief of staff Renato de Villa insisted the attempt to oust Aquino had failed. But he admitted rebels still controlled a major air base in the central Philippines and other parts of Manila.

Manila's international airport remained closed for a second day, and all domestic flights from the capital were cancelled.

The Red Cross reported that the unofficial two-day casualty toll now stood at 42 dead and more than 200 injured.

Aquino, whose helicopter gunships and airforce jets attacked rebel positions, meanwhile accused opposition leaders of financing and backing the sixth and most serious army coup

attempt against her since she swept to power in a 1986 popular revolt.

Rebel troops retained control of Mactan military airport in the central Philippines and tried to lay siege to the military headquarters at Camp Aguinaldo in the capital.

About 150 heavily armed rebel soldiers in full battle gear also took control of part of the Makati financial district, deploying in positions near three international hotels.

No shots were fired as the rebel troops broke up into small groups and positioned themselves around the base of supermarkets and offices.

As darkness fell, government troops were positioned in side streets, apparently caught in a stalemate in the heavily populated district that houses several foreign embassies.

Government helicopter gunships have killed 16 civilians while attacking rebel positions



Corason Aquino

and a government air force jet bombed its own men. Rebels replied with mortar fire on military headquarters.

Aquino did not name the opposition figures she believed to be behind the coup but identified two generals and 10 other senior military officers involved in the coup attempt.

Intervention of U.S. warplanes to provide air cover helped turn the tide for Aquino after mutineers had grabbed three military bases and two television stations and bombed the presidential palace.

Khartoum, rebels agree to resume relief flights

NAIROBI (R) — Warring sides in Sudan have agreed to the immediate resumption of relief flights for the famine-struck south, former U.S. President Jimmy Carter said Saturday.

Carter announced the accord on the second day of peace talks between the Khartoum government and the Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) which he is chairing in Nairobi.

He told a news conference Khartoum wanted the SPLA to agree new "corridors of tranquility" for the flights to south Sudan, where war, famine and disease killed 250,000 people last year.

Sudanese leader General Omar Hassan Al-Bashir would meet aid agencies possibly Monday to discuss arrangements for the flights, which had been shuttling food from Khartoum and Kenya before he halted them three weeks ago.

Bashir acted after planes said by diplomats to be Sudanese bombed the rebel-held town of Yei.

"Relief flights (will resume) provided only that no military weapons, ammunition, or military equipment are concealed in the aircraft," Carter said.

The SPLA would also have to honour the flight paths so no harm came to those delivering supplies, he said.

Carter is chairing the first session of the Nairobi talks aimed at ending the six-year-old civil war. The delegations, meeting for the

second time in five months, will later meet on their own.

Reading from a statement he said had been agreed by both sides, Carter said Khartoum also wanted relief agencies to give food to tens of thousands who have fled the war to north Sudan.

He said supplies must be distributed fairly between areas controlled by the government and those under rebel rule.

The SPLA, fighting to end what it regards as domination of the largely Christian and animist south by the Muslim, Arabised north, resumed hostilities in October after a six-month lull.

A U.N.-led relief effort has moved more than 100,000 tonnes of food to south Sudan in the past six months along flight paths agreed by the SPLA and former Prime Minister Sadeq Al Mahdi. Bashir ousted Mahdi in June in a military coup.

The SPLA is demanding abolition of Islamic Law, the creation of a new, broad-based government and army, a new constitution and general elections.

Bashir's government wants a federation that would leave Islamic Law intact in the north.

2 politicians freed

A Sudanese newspaper re-

ported Saturday that two leading politicians, jailed after the military coup, had been released from prison and put under house arrest.

No independent confirmation of the report in the Khartoum daily Sudan Al-Hadih was immediately available.

The newspaper said Mohammed Osman Al-Mirghani, leader of the Democratic Unionist Party, and Dr. Hassan Al-Turabi, leader of the fundamentalist National Islamic Front, were freed from Kohar Prison Thursday.

It said both politicians had expressed support for the policies of the military junta, which banned political parties and trade unions after it took power from the elected civilian government of Prime Minister Sadeq Al Mahdi. Mahdi is still in jail.

Sudan Al-Hadih also reported that an unspecified number of government soldiers wounded in fighting to recapture the town of Kurmuk from the SPLA were airlifted to Khartoum Friday in a military plane.

The newspaper said the town, on the Ethiopian border, was retaken Wednesday in a fierce 45-minute battle in which the SPLA suffered heavy losses before the rebels fled across the frontier.

The SPLA has denied there was any fighting. It said it withdrew from Kurmuk, seized on Oct. 28, two days earlier.

French-made warplanes highlight UAE celebrations

ABU DHABI, United Arab Emirates (AP) — A formation of French-built Mirage 2000 jet fighters highlighted a two-hour military parade here Saturday, marking the 18th anniversary of the 1971 merger of seven sheikhdoms into the United Arab Emirates.

UAE President Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al-Nahyan attended the display of ground, sea and air weapons at a seafront boulevard and a grandstand packed with an estimated 5,000 spectators.

Flanked on both sides by his top aides and rulers of the various emirates, the bearded leader clapped as the Mirages swooped low overhead. One Mirage drew an ovation with aerobatics, before formations of transport planes, armed helicopters and interceptors paraded past the crowds.

The Mirage 2000s, about six in all, were delivered a few days ago, the first batch of a \$2.2-billion deal involving a total of 36 Mirages and various types of military hardware signed with France in 1985.

The arrival of the Mirages was seen here as sign of improved relations with France, after a disagreement over a demand that the aircraft be equipped with U.S.-built Sidewinder air-to-surface missiles.

The parade was attended by French Defence Minister Jean-Pierre Chevenement, along

with a number of Arab cabinet ministers and military commanders.

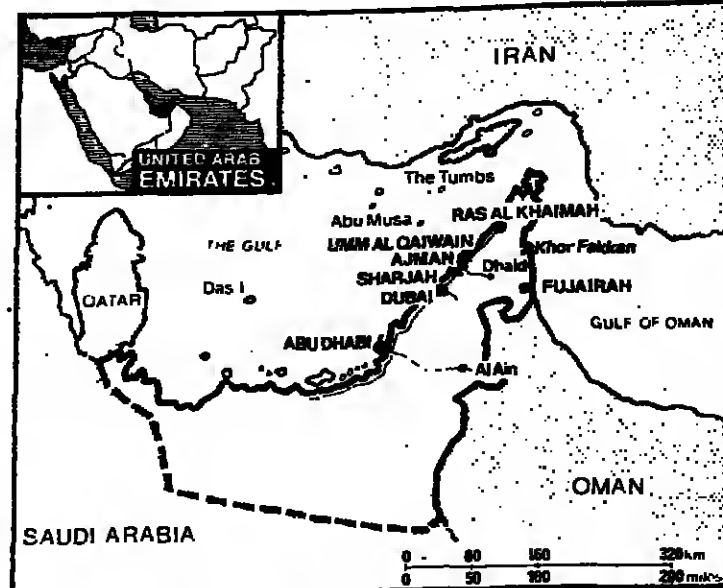
Units of the various arms of the 43,000-strong armed forces took part in the parade, which also featured French-made Gazelle and Alouette III helicopters, Crotale, Exocet and Rapier missiles, Ferret scout cars, Saladin and Saracen armoured personnel carriers, U.S.-made Hercules and Buffalo transport planes and British-built Hawk jet fighters also were paraded.

It was the first military parade since 1977. Armed Forces Chief of Staff Gen. Mohammed Saeed Al-Badi said the parades had been interrupted largely on account of "sadness caused by the Middle East wars" and the recent eight-year conflict between Iran and Iraq.

A leading oil-exporting nation, the UAE, like its neighbouring countries of the Gulf has diverted sizable funds from the oil bonanza years of the 1970s to build a strong armed force.

Traditionally armed by Britain, which controlled the former trilateral coast sheikhdoms from which the UAE was formed in 1971, the federation has spread out its military shopping.

Aside from France, it has concluded new arms deals with Britain, Italy and Egypt offer-



ing unspecified types of weapons.

Badi said the UAE was in the process of strengthening the armed forces and will shortly introduce conscription.

The federation comprises Abu Dhabi, Dubai, Sharjah, Ras Al Khaimah, Umm Al-Qaiwain, Fujairah and Ajman, under the leadership of the biggest and richest Abu Dhabi.

The vast revenues from oil sales have helped turn large tracts into farmland, build light industries and give its estimated 1.8 million people one of the world's highest per capi-

ta income — \$15,000 a year.

Mainly due to oil and gas sales the country's gross national product increased from a mere \$1.81 billion in 1972 to a whopping \$24.52 billion in 1989, according to Central Bank statements.

The federation, mainly Abu Dhabi and Dubai, produce a total of 2.6 million barrels of crude oil a day, according to a recent statement by Oil Minister Mansour Otaiba. It earns some \$3.5 billion this year from oil exports, but suffers a budget deficit of \$500 million. The deficits have been

chronic since the world oil market weakened in the early 1980s.

Of the total population figure, 74 per cent are expatriate workers, mainly Indian, Pakistani, Egyptian and Filipino, leaving UAE nationals as a minority in their own country. Sheikh Zayed in a speech appealed to Iran and Iraq to hasten the pace toward a peace treaty "so that the Gulf (region) may reap the fruit of stability and security."

He also declared his "undivided support" for the Palestinian uprising against Israel in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, asking leaders of the world to help the Palestinians regain their "rights and stop the barbaric perpetrations of Israel against the Arabs in occupied territory."

He urged the people and leaders of Lebanon to patch up their differences and push their country toward national reconciliation.

All seven emirates held separate celebrations, with each decorating its main avenues and government buildings and marking the occasion by "lighting the national day torches."

Desert drummers and torch bearers marched through streets, along with sword-wielding nationals in bedouin robes and headgear.

SLA shells Nabatiyeh, 3 killed

NABATIYEH, Lebanon (Agencies) — Israeli-backed militia gunners shelled the southern market town of Nabatiyeh Saturday killing three Shi'ite Muslim people and wounding nine, police reported. A police spokesman said the casualties occurred during a three-hour barrage by gunners of the Israeli-allied South Lebanon Army (SLA) militia of the crowded market town, which has a population of about 100,000.

The spokesman, who cannot be named in line with regulations, said the barrage started after fighters of the mainstream Shi'ite Amal militia ambushed an SLA squad on a road east of Nabatiyeh.

"SLA casualties could not be determined, but judging by the retaliatory artillery barrage, it seems they've had some fatalities," the spokesman added.

The 2,500-strong SLA, backed by Israeli troops, patrols a narrow

strip of South Lebanon referred to by the Jewish state as the "security zone."

Israel carved out the 850-square-kilometre zone when it withdrew the bulk of its invading army from South Lebanon in the summer of 1985, ending a three-year occupation of the region.

The zone serves as a buffer

against cross-border infiltrations into northern Israeli settlements.

In Marjayoun, a bomb killed a member of the SLA militia Saturday, security sources said.

They said a roadside bomb killed the SLA militiaman near the village of Nabi Taber inside Israel's self-declared security zone in South Lebanon.

Mubarak receives Syrian aide

CAIRO (R) — Egypt and Syria, still without diplomatic ties, made a fresh crack in the ice Saturday.

Syrian Interior Minister Mohammed Harba joined Arab colleagues in a call on President Hosni Mubarak at the Abdou El-Nasser Library in central Cairo, then asked for and got a private meeting with Mubarak, sources at the presidency said.

He was the first Syrian minister to hold talks with an Egyptian

president in Cairo since Mubarak's predecessor, Anwar Sadat, made peace with Israel more than 10 years ago.

Interior minister who met in Cairo to talk about drugs and terrorism were holding the League's first cabinet-level conference in Egypt since the 1979 break.

The Syrian minister left his meeting with Mubarak without speaking to reporters.

Benjedid reelected party president

ALGIERS (AP) — The three-day extraordinary congress of the ruling National Liberation Front (NLF) has closed with the unanimous reelection of Chadli Benjedid as its president.

But the congress also nearly doubled the number of members of its Central Committee, electing many hard-liners known for their support for the late President Houari Boumedienne.

Benjedid called on the 5,000-member party congress to "close ranks and remain united" against the challenge of at least 12 opposition parties likely to compete for power in general elections scheduled early next year.

The congress heard repeated calls for Algeria's democratisation, but in the end elected a 272-member Central Committee — an increase of 117 — many of whom were known to favour hardline socialism.

Benjedid had announced that the Central Committee members would be individually elected. But, in the end, the congress was presented with a complete list of nominees which was then "elected by acclamation."

Among those taking up positions on the Central Committee are former members of Boumedienne's government who were removed from power following the president's death in 1978.

Benjedid, who was elected to succeed him as Algeria's president, has worked patiently to take Algeria down a more pragmatic, liberal road.

The committee was expected to hold its first meeting in the next few days to elect a new secretary general and make some far-reaching decisions on Algeria's future policies.

The congress met in closed session after its formal opening, and delegates said many of the debates were stormy.

One of the significant actions was eliminating the word "socialism" from the description of government policy.

UNRWA announces gloomy financial forecast

VIENNA (Agencies) — United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA) faces a very difficult year financially in 1990 because contributions to the Agency's budget are not expected to cover even regular expenses, while emergency needs in the occupied territory and Lebanon could well increase.

This was the gloomy assessment given to representatives of more than 40 diplomatic missions to the United Nations in Vienna at an UNRWA information meeting on Nov. 28.

Commissioner-General Giorgio Giacomelli told the diplomats he was "seriously worried" about the prospects for next year. Several major past donors had not yet been able to make specific pledges and the largest regular contributor (the United States) was considering a major cut for technical and financial reasons.

"We are already working very hard with scissors on our budget, trying desperately to avoid cutting into the regular programme," Mr. Giacomelli said.

Comptroller Hans-Christian Cars told the meeting that the cash budget of \$189.4 million for 1990 was so far not covered by pledges or anticipated contributions from regular donors. Cash expenditures looked like outrunning income substantially, he said.

The projected 1990 budget as already published totals \$242.3 million. This includes the \$189.4 million cash component, a projected \$18.8 million "in-kind" component of the General Fund, a further \$19 million for ongoing activities funded by special contributions and a huge \$14.9 million for "capital and special projects" — eg. construction — which will only be carried out if specific funding is secured.

In addition, the emergency programmes in the occupied territory and Lebanon would require \$35 million to be kept running at their present level in 1990. "Unfortunately, at present we have not received anything close to that amount in pledges and commitments," Mr. Giacomelli warned.

"And the situation in these fields is such that the expectation should not be too optimistic for the immediate future and we have probably to expect a worsening rather than an improvement of the situation."

The pledging conference for UNRWA held on Nov. 16 in New York produced \$76 million in pledges from 40 countries and the Holy See for UNRWA's regular and emergency programmes in 1990.

The biggest pledges came from Sweden (\$15.6 million), Italy (\$9.63m), Norway (\$9.39m), the United Kingdom (U.K.) (\$9m) and West Germany (\$6.7m). Switzerland pledged \$5.9m, Denmark up to \$5.8m (including funding of the Rmallah training centres) and Finland increased its contribution by 66 per cent from last year, to \$3.5m. Special contributions to the emergency programmes were pledged by Kuwait (\$500,000), Denmark (\$418,000) and the U.K. (\$393,700) for a technical survey of needed infrastructural improvements in camps.

Among the major regular donors not yet able to pledge were the European Community, Japan, Canada, Kuwait and Saudi Arabia.

Current problems

At the information meeting on Nov. 28, Giacomelli noted that on Dec. 8 it will be 40 years since the U.N. General Assembly adopted Resolution 302 under which UNRWA was established to provide emergency humanitarian assistance to the Palestine refugees.

"This temporary agency has evolved into a permanent feature of the U.N. system and a very vital part of the lives of now more than 2 million refugees," he said.

Today, while remaining a symbol of the international commitment and obligation to the Palestinian people, as well as a "pressure valve" for refugees still in distress, UNRWA was trying to meet new demands for assistance, particularly in the occupied territory of the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

The past year, he said, had seen a sharp increase in incidents and casualties as well as violations of UNRWA property and attacks on agency staff by the occupying forces and authorities. School closures in the West Bank had caused refugee pupils to lose a large amount of time in their

studies and put their basic right to education in jeopardy, he said.

Giacomelli said there was still great concern about the future of UNRWA's activities in Lebanon. He said he was pained between an obligation to continue to carry out UNRWA's work and the need for at least a minimum level of security to give agency staff the freedom of move they needed to do their work.

He reiterated a strong appeal for all parties concerned to work for the freeing of two Swiss International Red Cross workers kidnapped in South Lebanon in mid-October. "If the very people that are there to try to help are singled out and become the objective of this kind of action, there is little hope for the future of a serious effort to rebuild and help that country," Mr. Giacomelli said.

Giacomelli has said that UNRWA strives to contribute to the Middle East peace process through the daily performance of its humanitarian tasks. In a message sent to a meeting in Cairo on Nov. 29 for the "International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People," he said: "A settlement of the question of Palestine can only be political, and that is beyond the boundaries of UNRWA's activities and ambitions. For the time being, and with the continuation of the intifada in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, the challenge for us is in the daily realities of the camps, clinics, schools, among children and young people, women, the elderly, and all those who need a helping hand or the varied support and skills that the agency can provide."

UNRWA carried out a special food distribution in Dheish camp, in West Bank, on Nov. 30, despite a curfew in force on the camp since Nov. 22. The distribution of 1,600 food parcels to 800 families went smoothly, although the curfew was re-imposed after the distribution, once again confining the camp's 7,000 inhabitants to their houses. During the curfew, UNRWA has had difficulty getting its medical personnel into the camp clinic and on two occasions they were forced to leave the clinic by the army without explanation.

Curfews were clamped on all eight refugee camps and others

population centres of the Gaza Strip on Nov. 15. UNRWA schools remained closed for three days, distributions were suspended and regular health services came to a halt. Emergency health services were able to function although in Bureij camp Israeli soldiers entered the health centre and ordered medical staff to stop treating patients. Curfews on all camps except Nuseirat were lifted on Nov. 16.

No fatalities from army action were reported in the Gaza Strip from Nov. 5-30, although more than 500 people were wounded, including 96 by live ammunition, in the second half of the month as minor clashes continued almost daily. There were repeated incursions by soldiers into UNRWA schools and other premises during the fortnight and on Nov. 27 border police severely beat two health workers in Bureij camp after chasing a severely wounded youth into the UNRWA clinic.

In the West Bank, six Palestinians were killed by the Israeli military during the fortnight, including two brothers aged 19 and 20 in Al-Ram village north of Jerusalem. An 18-year-old youth from a village in the Nablus district was killed on Nov. 30 by Palestinians who mistook him for another man suspected of "collaborating" with the authorities.

At least five alleged collaborators were killed in the West Bank; and two in the Gaza Strip, during the past fortnight, bringing the toll of such killings since the beginning of the uprising to some 150, according to press reports.

Construction in Lebanon

Work has progressed on three projects undertaken by Lebanon field's technical section in Ein Al Hilweh camp, Saida. Extension of the Ein Al Hilweh distribution centre has now been completed, construction of a clinical laboratory in the same camp has begun and work on a new three-storey school for boys in Diwan's Orchard is well advanced. In addition, contracts have been issued for work on Hittin and Marj Ben Amer schools as well as boundary work in the Ein Al Hilweh compound, and for Naqab, Mansoura and Shajara schools in the Tyre area.

JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel. 773111-19

PROGRAMME ONE

15:30 Koran
15:40 Programme review
15:45 Children's programme
17:10 Football
18:00 News summary in Arabic
18:05 Local programme
18:20 Cultural programme
19:00 Local programme
19:40 Programme review
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 Arabic series
21:30 Local programme
22:40 Varieties programme
23:40 News summary in Arabic

PROGRAMME TWO

18:00 Loft story
18:15 L'ecole de l'air
19:00 News in French
19:15 Silence on Tournes
19:30 News in Hebrew
19:45 Varieties programme
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 "The Struggle in Charge"
21:10 Democracy
22:00 News in English
22:30 The Equaliser

PRAYER TIMES

04:23 Fajr

CHURCHES

06:14 (Sunrise) Doha

11:25 Doha
14:13 Ash
16:36 Maghreb
17:58 Isha

St. Mary of Nazareth Church Sweets, Tel. 810740

Assembly of God Church, Tel. 632785.

St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590.

Church of the Annunciation Tel. 637440.

De la Salle Church Tel. 661757.

Terrassane Church Tel. 622366.

Church of the Annunciation Tel. 623541.

Anglican Church Tel. 625383, Tel. 628543.

Armenian Catholic Church Tel. 771331.

Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. 775261.

St. Ephraim Church Tel. 771751.

Armenian International Church Tel. 685326.

Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel. 211255.

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Tel. 815817 and 654932.

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

Some clouds appear at different altitudes and winds will be southeasterly moderate. In Aqaba, it will be dusty with northerly moderate wind and calm sea.

Min./max. temp. 3/14

Aqaba 10/21

Deserts 2/15

Jordan Valley 8/18

Yesterday's high temperature: Amman 12, Aqaba 20. Humidity readings: Amman 54 per cent, Aqaba 40 per cent.

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN: Dr. Abdul Hadi Abu Khoja 791954

Dr. Walid Al-Saeid 653266

Dr. Walid Al-Saeid 779997

Dr. Basma Al-Qadousi 646024

First pharmacy 661912

Referrals pharmacy 718336

Al-Aziza pharmacy 675053

Naioukh pharmacy 626762

AMMAN: Dr. Abdul Hadi Abu Khoja 791954

Dr. Walid Al-Saeid 653266

Dr. Walid Al-Saeid 779997

Dr. Basma Al-Qadousi 646024

First pharmacy 661912

Referrals pharmacy 718336

Al-Aziza pharmacy 675053

Naioukh pharmacy 626762

Yasuni pharmacy 636730

Shamsi pharmacy 644945

Shamsi pharmacy 637660

Abdali Telephone Repairs 661101

Jordan Television 773111

Radio Jordan 774111

Water Authority 60100

Jordan Electricity Authority 815615

Electric Power 636381

RJ Flight Information 08-53200

Queen Alia Intl. Airport 08-53200

AMMAN: Hussein Medical Centre 813613/2

Khalid Maternity, J. Amn. 644281/6

Abdali Maternity, J. Amn. 642411/2

Jabal Amman Maternity 642262

Malhas, J. Amman 626140

Palatine, Shamsi 664171/4

St. Joseph Hospital 649545

University Hospital 667277/9

IRBID: Princess Basma Hospital (02)275555

Masa'deh calls for real security for all Arabs

CAIRO (J.T.) — Jordan is taking part in the meetings of the Arab Interior Ministers Council which is in progress in Cairo to discuss a pan-Arab strategy on combating drugs among other important issues.

Deputy Prime Minister and Interior Minister Salem Masa'deh is heading Jordan's delegation to the meeting which will review recommendations submitted by Arab police chiefs on criminal investigation, prisons, combating drug



Salem Masa'deh

trafficking and other affiliated topics.

In an address to the council's opening session, Masa'deh said that Jordan along with the rest of the Arab countries "was looking forward to the day when real security for all Arab citizens has been achieved and when all citizens feel that it is their responsibility to contribute towards maintaining such security in every respect."

The council's agenda is full of important issues pertaining to security for the Arab World, and it is hoped that the council will endorse a pan-Arab strategy to ensure comprehensive security for the Arab region, the minister said.

Masa'deh said that the Palestinian people under occupation find encouragement and support from a united Arab front that can help them remain steadfast in the face of Israeli aggression and continued occupation.

One topic on the agenda, which was endorsed by the council at a meeting Friday, is the question of the treatment of Palestinian nationals in the Arab World and proposals for the council's activities and programmes in 1990.

NATIONAL NEWS IN BRIEF

ENDORSEMENT: The Cabinet, convening Saturday under the chairmanship of Prime Minister Shari' Zeid Ben Shaker, endorsed the minutes of meetings of the joint Jordanian-Tunisian Trade Committee which provide for increased cooperation between the two countries in the fields of economy, trade, culture, health, science, sports, and youth. The cabinet also agreed to set the prices of Tunisian olive oil at JD 7 per 4,375 kg and to exclude the Higher Council for Science and Technology from the implementation of the Civil Service Law No. 1 for 1988. The Cabinet also approved the Water Authority's plan to receive a JD 4.5 million loan. The Cabinet also approved the appointment of retired major general Afif Ahmad Abdul Fattah as director of the Civil Defence Department and the appointment of Youssef Bouran as ambassador at the Foreign Ministry. Furthermore, the Cabinet endorsed a saving system to facilitate housing according to which when applicants complete the payment of 15 per cent of the cost of housing units in instalments, the Housing Corporation delivers the units within six months (Petra).

KING CONGRATULATES UAE: His Majesty King Hussein Saturday sent a cable to the United Arab Emirates President Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahayan in which he congratulated him in his name and on behalf of the Jordanian people and government on the occasion of the UAE's National Day anniversary. The King wished Sheikh Zayed continued good health and happiness and the people of the UAE further progress and prosperity. (Petra)

SENATE TO MEET SUNDAY: Upper House of Parliament Speaker Ahmad Al Lawzi decided Saturday to call the House for a meeting on Sunday Dec. 3 to discuss the reply to the speech from the throne. (Petra)

LAWZI RECEIVES CABLE FROM CHINA: Upper House of Parliament Speaker Ahmad Al Lawzi Saturday received a congratulatory cable from Wan Li, chairman of the permanent committee of the People's Assembly of China. In his cable, Li expressed hope that good relations will continue between the peoples and parliaments of China and Jordan. (Petra)

TEAM FOR ISLAMABAD TALKS: The Cabinet Saturday decided to form Jordan's delegation to the meetings of the joint Jordanian-Pakistani Committee for Economic and Technical Cooperation scheduled to convene Thursday, Dec. 7 in Islamabad. The delegation will be headed by the Ministry of Planning secretary general and will include representatives from the ministries of Industry and Trade, Finance, Planning and the Customs Department. (Petra)

ART EXHIBITION: Her Royal Highness Princess Wijdan Ali, chairperson of the Royal Fine Art Club, opened an art exhibition by Jordanian artists Golsian Salim, Nabla Al Tahaa, Iham Ghantous, Mai-Lou and Lara Malek. The week-long exhibition, entitled "Form, colour and shadow," includes 82 paintings depicting nature and man. (Petra)

SEMINAR ON EMIGRATION: A regional seminar on international emigration in the Arab World will open Monday at the University of Jordan. The five-day seminar, to be held under the patronage of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, will discuss factors of international emigration and the methods to curtail it. A number of Arab experts and specialists will participate in the seminar which is organised by the Faculty of Economy and Administrative Sciences at the University of Jordan in cooperation with a number of international organisations. (Petra)

COURSE IN DRESS-MAKING: A course in dress-making started Saturday at Princess Basma Social Services Centre in Tafila. Taking part in the course, which will last for 11 months, are 15 girls who will have theoretical and practical courses in the art of dress-making. Another course in knitting has started in the centre with the participation of 14 ladies from Tafila. (Petra)

JORDANIAN ART EXHIBITION IN TUNIS: An Art Exhibition by Jordanian artist Mohammad Al Bolis was opened Saturday in Tunis. The exhibition, which was organised by the Jordanian embassy and the Tunisian National Cultural Committee, includes 100 paintings depicting nature in Jordan and Tunisia and showing the Palestinian struggle against occupation. The three-day exhibition comes within the framework of cultural exchange between Jordan and Tunisia. (Petra)

WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

EXHIBITIONS

- ★ An exhibition of paintings and etchings inspired by Arabic Islamic art at Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation.
- ★ An art exhibition by artists from Jordan and other Arab countries at Al Wasiti Gallery, Plaza Hotel.
- ★ Book exhibition at the University of Yarmouk.
- ★ An art exhibition by Ghassan Al Huseini, Abid Atwan and Abdulrahman Nawabeh at the Jordanian Plastic Artists Association, Shmeisani.
- ★ An art exhibition of water colours by Jordan artist Ahmad Ismail at the Gallery, Hotel Jordan Inter-Continental.
- ★ An exhibition organised by the Goethe Institute entitled "The Blue Rider" at the Jordan University of Science and Technology, Irbid.
- ★ An art exhibition by Jordanian artist Shaber Murji at the British Council.



Her Majesty Queen Noor Saturday visits one of the classrooms for physiotherapy at the newly inaugurated College of Occupational Therapy in Amman (Petra photo)

Queen Noor inaugurates college of Occupational Therapy in Amman

AAMMAN (J.T.) — Her Majesty Queen Noor Saturday inaugurated the College of Occupational Therapy at Farah Royal Jordanian Rehabilitation Centre in Amman and was presented with a detailed briefing on the services offered to the patients through its facilities.

After hearing the briefing by the college Director Fakhri Hourani, the queen visited one of the classrooms for physiotherapy sessions and was briefed on the programmes. She later visited some patients and was briefed on the nature of treatment they receive with the help of newly installed equipment and apparatuses.

The college is the first of its kind in Jordan, created through the efforts of volunteers as a result of an acute shortage in the Kingdom for occupational therapists, according to a college official.

He said that volunteers and financiers include the General Union of Voluntary Societies (GUVS), the United States

Agency for International Development (USAID), the Japanese embassy in Amman, the British Council and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF).

The college, which began teaching in October 1989, offers a three-year programme in which 12 students are currently enrolled.

The college is presently in the process of introducing the same programme at the University of Jordan to provide training to a larger number of students.

According to the official, the college aims to train qualified occupational therapists through a programme that combines theory with practice.

Occupational therapy includes the physical and psychiatric treatment of an individual to help him reach his maximum level of function and independence in daily activities, following an illness or injury.

Treatment is usually tailored

by the therapist according to the specific needs of the patient and his family.

At present, there are only three occupational therapists working at the centre.

According to research, the approximate national need for occupational therapists is one for every 20,000 people, which means that Jordan has an immediate need of 150 occupational therapists.

Queen Noor was welcomed to the college by Her Highness Princess Majda Ra'ad, chairperson of the board of directors, who attended the inauguration ceremony along with Health Minister Zuhair Malhas, National Medical Institution (NMI) Director Abdul Salam Al Majali, director of Al Hussein Medical Centre Dr. Aref Batayneh and Dr. Salim Dibesh, director of the Farah Royal Jordanian Rehabilitation Centre.

Also present were representatives of the Japanese embassy, UNICEF, GUVS, the British Council and USAID.

Jordan to attend seminar on reforming administration

AAMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan is taking part in a seminar on reforming public administrations in the developing world which will open in Washington Monday.

The five-day seminar will discuss a number of working papers submitted by the participants on their countries reform programmes and their experiences in improving public administration and contrasts with other nations, according to Mr. Abdolab Ulayyan, director general of the Institute of Public Administration (IPA).

Ulayyan, who left for Washington Saturday to take part in the meeting, said he was submitting a report to the conference on Jordan's programme to overhaul its public administration system as of the coming year.

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) recently announced plans to help Jordan, through the Civil Service Commission and the Institute of Public Administration, to provide

training to government employees and develop public administration work in the country.

Also Saturday, a training seminar sponsored by the UNDP and the IPA was opened in Amman.

The participants came from Jordan, the United Arab Emirates, Turkey, China, Kenya, Malaysia, Nepal, Chile, Thailand and New Guinea.

Addressing the opening session was UNDP deputy representative in Jordan Tawfik Ibo Amara, who underlined the importance

of developing manpower with a view to promoting national economy.

"This seminar is part of UNDP efforts to help developing nations benefit from advanced expertise and modern techniques in promoting the work of their public administration systems," he said.

Amara also noted that the five-day seminar aims at providing the participants with skills related to planning, personnel and general administration departments' work.

Regional workshop on 'environmental health management in emergencies' begins in Amman

Malhas highlights Arabs plight under occupation

AAMMAN (J.T.) — The Middle East region has been beset with disasters and emergencies since the start of the present century, causing much sufferings for its people, particularly the people of occupied Palestine, who are now living through very difficult health and environmental conditions, Health Minister Zuhair Malhas said Saturday.

Thousands of Palestinians have been forcibly evicted from their homeland as a result of Israeli occupation and have been forced to live for more than four decades in pitiable conditions and difficult environment, lacking the basic health safety requirements, the minister said in an address to a regional workshop on "environmental health management in emergencies" attended by 23 Arab and foreign countries, including Jordan.

Apart from natural disasters such as floods and earthquakes, the Middle East region has been subjected to numerous hazards, air, land and sea pollution, chemical contamination and above all massing of nuclear weapons by the Jewish state, the minister noted.

Malhas said that the countries in the region "have ignored the question of dealing with such disasters and emergencies in the past due mainly to the numerous challenges they had been forced to face especially in the course of modernisation in the present century."

"This important conference is being held not far off from Palestine which has been under Israeli occupation for the past four decades, an area where the Palestinian people have been living for two years in emergency situation, facing one catastrophe after another, and confronting Israel's

curfews and other measures such as cutting off water supplies and starving refugee camps, contaminating the atmosphere and depriving the indigenous population of basic education through the closure of schools and universities," Malhas noted.

In addition, he said, occupied Palestine has been witnessing a continuous process of mistreatment by the Israeli authorities of men, women and children; hospitals have been deprived of essential medical supplies for the wounded in the intifada and Israel's drive to evict the local population from their homeland has been maintained unabated.

The five-day meeting, organised by the regional Centre for Environmental Health Activities (CEHA) in cooperation with the Ministry of Health, was also addressed by Dr. Hosseio Gazairy regional director of the World Health Organisation's (WHO) Eastern Mediterranean Region, and his speech was delivered on his behalf by Dr. Mohammad Islam Sheikh.

"Many efforts are being made at present by the WHO at global, regional and national levels to raise awareness and to enhance national capabilities in emergency preparedness, mainly those directly related to health," Gazairy said in his speech.

He said: "All countries must be prepared to deal with disaster.

Disaster means not only the effects of sudden natural events such as earthquakes, hurricanes, volcanic eruptions, floods and droughts, but also the consequences of some accidental man-made situations, such as chemical or radiation contamination, oil spills, and fires, as well as some deliberate acts including war, riots, etc.

"Disasters, both natural and man-made, to which many countries of the Eastern Mediterranean Region are prone, can impair environmental conditions by sudden changes in air and water quality, soil pollution and damage and even destruction of water supply and sanitation facilities, as well as other basic community services."

"In addition, disruption of environmental balance can have serious consequences for the health and well-being of the stricken populations," Gazairy said.

He commended Jordan for its deep interest in the WHO activities and its concern with environmental quality and with the important role which environmental health intervention plays towards the attainment of the WHO goal of "health for all by the year 2000," with primary health care as the basic approach.

According to CEHA officials, the meeting aims to provide opportunity for exchange of experiences and information on technical and managerial aspects of environmental health in emergencies, to raise awareness on the importance of emergency preparedness for national agencies responsible for environmental health activities, and to promote the establishment of a programme, in the region for environmental health management in emergencies.

Bedour: Jordan is upgrading workers' training to yield better production

AAMMAN (Petra) — The Labour Ministry is now giving priority to upgrading training for workers so as to help them yield better production in various business fields, and continues to consult with employers and labour unions before making any decisions concerning workers. Minister of Labour Jamal Al Bedour said Saturday.

Addressing the opening session of a training seminar on labour inspection, organised by the ministry's Workers Training Institute in cooperation with the International Labour Organisation (ILO), Bedour said that the

Ministry of Labour is also involved in developing Jordan's relations with Jordanian expatriates working abroad and "in organising the local labour market to allow more opportunities for unemployed Jordanians."

At the same time, the Ministry of Labour is developing its ties with Arab and foreign countries through bilateral agreements; and labour attaches in Jordanian embassies abroad are trying to open more work opportunities for Jordanians, Bedour said.

"Of late, the Ministry of Labour increased the number of inspection teams to ensure that

non-Jordanians and businesses are abiding regulations and the ministry is recruiting specialised engineers to ensure sound and firm training at vocational institutions," Bedour added.

The minister said that new employment offices are being opened now to help find employment for job seekers and to pave the way for school and college graduates to acquire proper vocational training that would enable them to replace non-Jordanians.

According to Bedour, Dr. Hassan Al Attar, a leading ILO specialist is giving lectures at the training seminar.

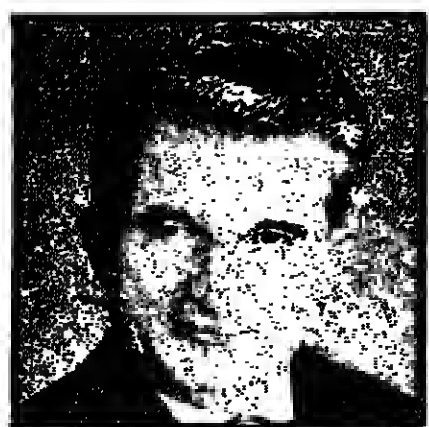
ROMANIA'S INDUSTRY Within Three Days and a Half Like in a Whole Year

To achieve in the economy of a country the amount of the industrial output of a whole year within three days and half only means that the country has an industry with a stronger potential today than in the past which would seem natural progress, indeed. But when the growth is obtained in only four decades of economic development by a developing country which has started from the very beginning in some fields like electronics, automation, chemistry — Romania's case — the rhythm is spectacular for sure. To increase by 145 times the productive capacity of the factories and combined groups of enterprises, to grow with almost ten thousand new national units — industrial and agro-zootechnical — the production's economic basis, offering about six million people new jobs, to move to new houses 82 per cent of the country's population in such a short historical period is, nevertheless, a convincing survey for a right and very efficient policy toward a rapid and substantial growth of the well-being of almost 23 million people.

Romanian people's successful results, in spite of some hardships the Romanian economy still faces, have led to the achievement of a development level which, at the beginning of the seventies, ensured over \$500 per capita and today, according to the estimation of the World Bank, will exceed \$2,000. From this point of view Romania is still a developing country but the aim of its intensive development during the present five-year plan will ensure its entering the category of medium developed countries.

The evaluation of the development standard on the basis of the national income is important although it does not tell everything about a country. That is why other illustrative aspects for the competitive potential of the industry should be taken into account. As for Romania, one may notice it has already exceeded in many fields the characteristic features of a developing country and for some products it achieved per capita productions even bigger than in many developed countries. This is the situation for the steel production (compared to Sweden, the United Kingdom, USA, the Netherlands), synthetic rubber (Italy, the United Kingdom), synthetic fibers (Austria, Canada, France), radio sets (Canada, Italy, the United Kingdom), cement (the Federal Republic of Germany, the United Kingdom, the Netherlands), cotton materials (Japan) and so on. For certain products such as sulphuric acid, tractors, trucks, rail trucks, plastic materials, refrigerators, television sets, footwear the output almost equals the production per capita in the developed countries.

All these changes and many others in the field of agriculture, science and education are internationally well-known, being appreciated by experts, politicians and the public opinion in the world over. President Ceausescu's conception on Romania's development on the basis of its own efforts implicitly includes an opening to the world for the cause of detente and peace, of the mutually advantageous international cooperation.



Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation. Established 1975

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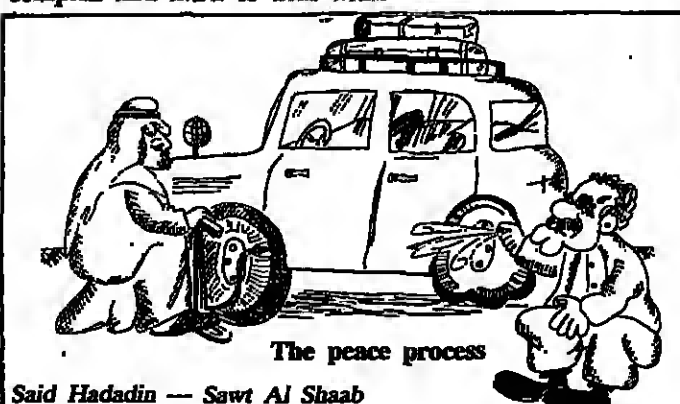
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Reason prevails in Lebanon

MEDIATIONS currently being carried out in Lebanon to find a common denominator between President Elias Hrawi and Michel Aoun need not and should not be exploited as a veil to perpetuate the stalemate between the recognised legitimacy and an open rebellion. President Hrawi has already sacrificed enough by not fulfilling his pledge to extend Lebanese authority over the remaining parts of his country before the end of his deadline. Hrawi's eleventh hour decision not to go through with his ultimatum to use force against General Aoun has already weakened the credibility and resolve of the new government in Lebanon. Still, the entire world, especially the Lebanese people, sighed with relief when the peaceful quest for reconciliation in Lebanon was given a new retrieve and an additional respite. The relief of all concerned was also given a refreshing boost when General Aoun sent a signal that he would consider mediation between himself and President Hrawi. This early sign from Aoun and his supporters has given the impression that Aoun has finally saw the light of day. Aoun's readiness to talk business was due to no small part to the initial resolve of President Hrawi.

All such developments must not lead to a situation of no peace and no war in Lebanon. Nothing more would promote the division of Lebanon than sustaining the status quo for too long. The mediation efforts and the counsel for restraint are in race against time to deliver the kind of rapprochement between President Hrawi and General Aoun in the nearest possible time. Otherwise mediation becomes a prescription for the division of Lebanon along sectarian lines and that is the last thing that the Lebanese and the other peoples of the Middle East region need.

It is incumbent therefore on all the countries that are offering their good offices to mediate between the two opposing sides in Lebanon to accelerate their efforts and deliver the hoped for results in the shortest possible time. Surely all concerned know that procrastination in the resolution of the conflict in Lebanon would further exacerbate the conditions there and render them that much more complex and hard to deal with.



Said Hadadin — Sawt Al Shaab

JORDAN PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i Arabic daily on Saturday discussed the Arab League Council's recent meeting in Tunis which directed a message to presidents Bush and Gorbachev who are holding a summit meeting in Malta. The paper said that the message urged the two leaders to include the Middle East region in their discussions so that East-West détente would include our region and so that peace can be established. The paper urged the two superpowers to embark on practical measures to help bring about peace that would end the Arab-Israeli conflict and guarantee the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people in their homeland. The Arab League's message said the paper, is in harmony with the two superpowers' orientation towards global peace and it is therefore incumbent upon the two leaders to take steps that lead to the achievement of that goal. But the paper added, there can be no lasting peace for this area unless it is based on justice and unless the Zionist terrorist aggression ends, unless there is an end to the sufferings of the Palestinian people. The paper said that the two superpowers can and should exercise their influence and act in a manner to bring about the aspired peace which should be based on United Nations Security Council resolutions.

A guest columnist in Al Ra'i Arabic daily Saturday calls the attention of Arab governments to Israel's radio programmes which he says are designed to distort Arab culture and education. Samir Hiyari says that a special Israeli programme which tends to give replies to questions allegedly coming to the broadcasting station from Arab citizens wishing to learn more about certain situations and about historic events. The writer says that the programme is designed in such a way as to make Arab listeners depend on Israeli information especially now as Arab educational institutions are not functioning. The writer warns against the seriousness of this situation and urges the Arab League and Arab broadcasting organisations to beam educational or even general knowledge programmes to the Arab citizens of Palestine to counter Israeli radio programmes which are full of falsehoods designed to cause harm to the Arabs and their heritage and culture.

Al Dastour daily on Saturday discussed the task before Parliament which is now involved in preparing a reply to the speech from the throne. The paper said that Parliament members will no doubt reflect in their reply to the King the general outline of their future programme based on the King's directives and guidelines and the legislative authority's determination to pursue the course of construction and development. The Jordanian people have attached great hopes on their deputies and they expect them to live up to expectations in word and deed, and to conform to the King's speech in providing protection to human rights and the rights of the public as well as security for the nation in all respects. The paper reminded the deputies of the King's call on Parliament to help remove obstacles in the path of the nation and not to refrain from deciding on anything that would add to such obstacles.

Sunday's Economic Pulse

New budget makes sense

MANY reasons led to the economic crisis which erupted in the autumn of 1988. Budget and related financial policies were the most important source of the trouble. External indebtedness came about due to heavy public expenditure on development and armaments beyond the capacity of the Jordanian economy. The weakness of the dinar was a direct result of issuing unlimited amounts of money to finance the Treasury spendings without foreign exchange cover.

Therefore, the containment of the crisis and bringing it under control has to start at the Ministry of Finance, and must manifest itself by financial controls which can be measured by a budget that is strict and binding.

The budget for 1990 has, for the first time, adhered to the fiscal logic. It did not list borrowing under revenue as it always did. The budget will now be classified into three sections: current, capital and financing. Even a layman can now tell the right size of the deficit which was previously window-dressed by developmental loans.

The 1990 deficit will be JD 200 million. This looks to be the largest deficit ever, but actually it is less than the deficit in any of the last five years if the previous budgets were reclassified properly.

The minister of finance says that deficit is now reduced to 16.5 per cent of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) against 20 per cent in 1989, an improvement of 3.5 per cent in line with the targets set in

the economic restructuring programme agreed upon with the IMF. However, the absence of accurate statistics and forecasts about GDP in 1989 and 1990 renders these percentages vague and uncertain.

Financing of the deficit was not left to the future as used to be the case. The loans to cover the gap are already agreed upon, including \$150 million from the IMF and the World Bank, \$150 million from Japan and \$92 million from other sources.

Arab aid is estimated by the budget at \$250 million. However, it is almost certain that Arab aid in 1990 will top \$350 million. The extra funds, when they materialise, will be used to reduce the extra ordinary advance from the Central Bank.

The size of the new budget rose by 10.5 per cent in nominal terms, mainly resulting from interest payable on loans and basic food subsidies. Taking into account that inflation in 1990 will range between 12 and 15 per cent, one can conclude that the budget is four per cent smaller than that of 1989 in real purchasing power. This is not a big reduction. It only reflects the new trend of austerity, but without adversely affecting the level of economic activity.

Current expenditure will rise by 13 per cent, almost the same as the expected inflation rate. The capital expenditure will rise by three per cent only in nominal terms. The reasons for the disparity is the inflexibility of recurring expenses. Most of the savings can come from the cancellation or postponement of development

projects. This should not cause a problem, because most basic infrastructure is already in place and operating adequately to satisfy the needs for years to come.

Domestic revenue is estimated at JD 694 million, 17.5 per cent up. This is obviously a huge jump if we take into account that the growth in the economy will hardly reach 2 per cent. The ambitious estimate however is attainable in view of the inflation rate, the recent amendments to the income tax law and expected customs duties on commodities previously banned from importation.

The budget indicates a step forward in the direction of financial self-sufficiency. The coverage of total expenditure by local revenue will rise to 63 per cent from 59 and the coverage of recurring expenditure by domestic revenue will rise to 81.5 per cent from 78.2 per cent in the current year. This exercise shows that full self-sufficiency is still a far away objective that needs many years of serious efforts. For the foreseeable future, Jordan will continue to need Arab financial aid.

In the financing section of the budget one finds that Jordan will be a net receiver of capital funds. Against JD 253 million of fresh funds, repayment of old loans will be JD 87 million only. It is not true that the restructuring programme was meant to squeeze foreign exchange in favour of creditors at the expense of the basic needs of the people. But that shows that Jordan's external indebtedness will continue to rise for quite some time before it starts to decrease, if ever.

By Dr. Fahed Fawzi

What do Soviets want at Malta?

By John-Thor Dahlburg
The Associated Press

MOSCOW — President Mikhail Gorbachev went into the Malta summit searching for signs of U.S. intentions — towards the Soviet Union, engaged in a titanic effort to modernise, and towards the fast-changing situation in Eastern Europe.

The Kremlin leader has endorsed the political changes that have brought reformers to power in every Warsaw Pact ally but Romania. But he speaks openly of fears that the West may try to exploit the situation.

Meanwhile, Gorbachev is struggling at home to rescue the economy and introduce political reforms — an effort, he says, that requires "a normal external environment for our domestic work."

What is Gorbachev's agenda for his talks with U.S. President George Bush? Here is a checklist, based on interviews with Soviet officials, accounts in the state-run media and comments by Gorbachev himself.

U.S. assurances on Eastern Europe

Gorbachev speaks directly of potential Western meddling in Eastern Europe.

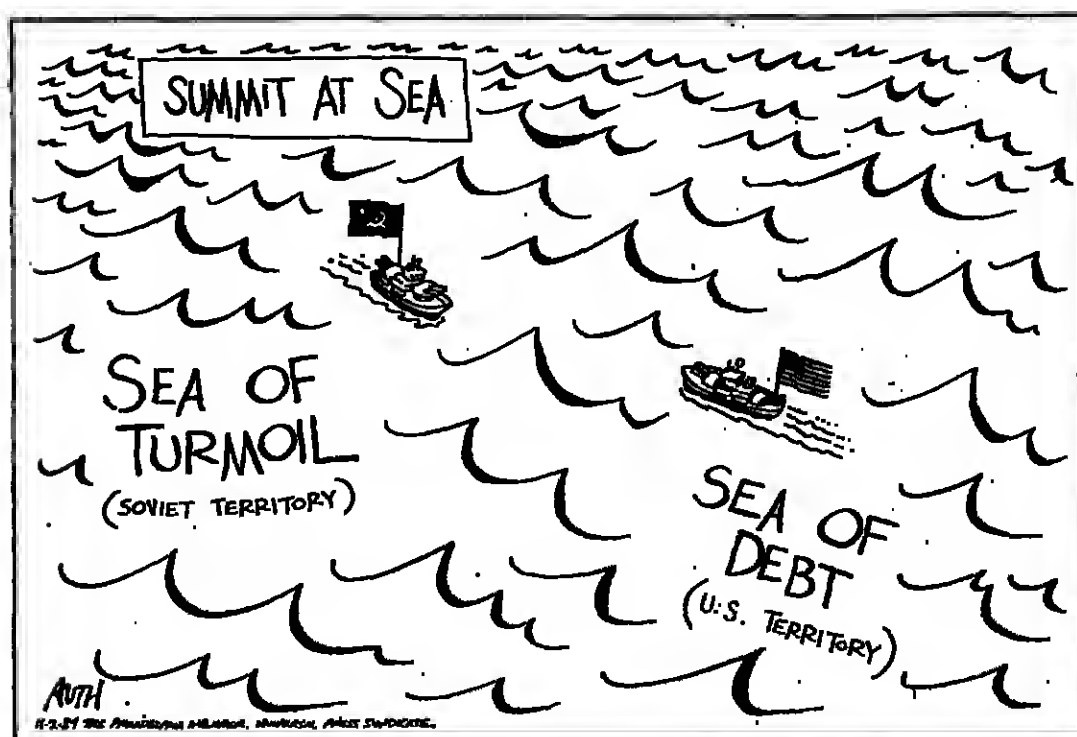
"The most dangerous thing at such moments is that someone may become tempted to use them for their own selfish interests," he said recently. Soviet politics also count; if the westward-facing shield formed by the Warsaw Pact crumbles, hard-liners could blame Gorbachev for squandering what Soviet soldiers spilled blood to gain in World War II.

Gorbachev says the Kremlin will no longer impose its views on its allies. To bar potential unrest, the Soviets may even endorse massive U.S. assistance; Poland, for example, is now hunting for \$1 billion in Western cash.

An end to the cold war?

Bush's invitation this month to Gorbachev to end decades of East-West confrontation was seized on by the Soviets as proof the superpowers are on the threshold of a "new stage of broad and open cooperation," in the words of foreign ministry spokesman Gennady I. Gerasimov.

Will Malta mark the end of the cold war? "I don't know what that means, since the war was never declared in the first place," says Viktor A. Kremenyuk, deputy head of a Kremlin think tank studying the United States. What



the Soviets clearly want is for the Americans to scrap economic machinery created as Western weaponry against the East, like restrictions on sales to the Soviets of such strategic goods as computers. The Soviets also are moving to liberalise emigration of Jews and others in an effort to gain "most-favoured nation" trading status with the United States.

Predictable superpower relations

Beset with a teetering state-run economy, a bewildering array of ethnic disputes and the volatile political change throughout the East Bloc, the Soviets look to U.S. Soviet relations for stability.

In his Nov. 23 speech, Bush called himself a supporter of perestroika, but the Soviets want him to add substance.

The Soviet ideal, says Kremenyuk, would be a "timetable" fixing goals for the Geneva talks on strategic weapons cuts, the Vienna negotiations on conventional arms in Europe and so on. The Soviets have never bought Bush's description of the Malta meeting as an informal get-together, and want to return to Moscow with a superpower agenda, at least for the near term.

Help with the economy

Foreign Minister Eduard A. Shevardnadze flushed with anger when asked whether the summit was called so the Kremlin could

seek U.S. aid for its shortage-plagued economy. "It offends our national pride," he said. Pride or not, the Soviets want U.S. expertise, computers and management techniques.

Well into the fifth year of reforms, Soviets still must line up to buy rationed goods like meat and butter, and consumer grumbling is louder. Shevardnadze says the Soviets want "mutually beneficial economic and trade cooperation." But even if Bush agrees to loosen controls on high-tech exports and upgrade the Soviets' trading status, it's uncertain how much they could produce that the West would want to buy.

Show who's boss

After a 4½ years of Gorbachev's rule, Washington is debating whether he and his reform campaign can survive. U.S. perceptions of the Soviets are now fused with the physical presence of the 58-year-old Soviet leader, so he must demonstrate he remains in command despite ethnic unrest that has killed 300 people, crippling strikes and increasingly vocal nostalgia for a "strong hand" like Joseph Stalin.

In the Soviet view, Gorbachev's eclipse or disappearance would cause the United States to question achievements in superpower relations since he came to power in March 1985.

Give a push to disarmament

The centerpiece of past sum-

mits, arms control is now overshadowed by the momentous changes in Eastern Europe. For Soviets, however, weapons cuts are tangible proof Gorbachev's "new thinking" is paying off. The Soviets have cleared the way for progress by dropping their condition that Washington agree not to deploy space-based missile defenses, and how are hinting Malta could break remaining logjams. Kremenyuk said the Soviets want the 30 per cent to 50 per cent cuts in superpower arsenals envisaged by the proposed strategic arms reduction treaty, plus a cooling-off of regional conflicts like Afghanistan, so they can shift more resources to the civilian economy.

Take measure of Bush

It would be hard to imagine a more unlikely pair than the millionaire whose father was a U.S. senator and the Russian peasant's son whose parents struggled to buy him shoes so he could attend school. They have met previously, most recently in New York last December when Bush was preparing to succeed then-President Ronald Reagan.

But Malta will be Gorbachev's first opportunity to measure Bush as U.S. head of state, perhaps by springing one of his trademark surprises. The encounter also will show whether the two men have the personal chemistry that played a key role in Gorbachev's five summits with Reagan.

Summit seen as spur to arms-control accords

By Bryan Brunley
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President George Bush's Mediterranean summit with Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev could speed up a timetable for new superpower accords slashing arsenals of nuclear, conventional and chemical weapons.

"It would seem like all the signs are pointing to quick resolution," said James Rubin, assistant director of the Arms Control Association of Washington. "But a summit resolution to move to completion to all three is the best we should hope for."

Bush has stressed that the summit will not focus on arms control and that he was "not going to surprise" the Soviets with any flashy proposals.

Gorbachev, however, is known for doing the unexpected and he may try to pressure Bush into talks on naval power.

The U.S. navy is rated mightier, and the administrations of Bush and former President Ronald Reagan have resisted having this question put on any arms-control negotiating tables in the past.

The general subject of arms control, nevertheless, always is centre-stage when the superpower leaders meet.

Gorbachev, in a joint statement Thursday with Italian leaders, expressed hope for agreements by the end of 1990 to cut conventional and chemical weapons — and a third deal to sharply reduce strategic-arms stockpiles.

Bush and Gorbachev have said that the next summit, to be held in the United States next year, might be used to sign a proposed strategic arms reduction treaty (START). This would slash superpower nuclear arsenals by 30 to 50 per cent, to 6,000 warheads per side.

For the first time since Gorbachev sat down with Reagan in Geneva in 1985, the arms control agenda is not dominated by the U.S. space-based missile shield proposal, otherwise known as Star Wars, and that's a good omen for START.

The Soviets said in September they were removing a major START obstacle by dropping their precondition that the United States agree not to violate the 1972 anti-ballistic missile treaty, which restricts strategic defenses.

Instead, the Soviets have reserved the right to rearm if the

United States violates ABM by deploying Star Wars defenses. The Soviets also agreed to include submarine-launched cruise missiles (SLCM) in a separate agreement rather than in START. The United States balked at curbing that class of weapons.

In September, the United States also removed a major obstacle to START, dropping its demand to ban mobile missiles. The Soviet Union has deployed two such systems, the 10-warhead SS-24 and the single-warhead SS-20.

Congress has approved funding for two comparable U.S. weapons, and the U.S. air force announced Wednesday that it was designating sites to deploy 50 mobile versions of its 10-warhead MX missiles, which have been housed in silos up to this point.

On conventional arms, the Western and Eastern military alliances have made steady progress in multilateral talks to sharply reduce forces in Europe, with only one major issue dividing them, the definition of an offensive aircraft.

The North Atlantic Treaty Organisation wants the Warsaw Pact to cut 7,000 planes, versus a reduction of 1,000 for the West. But the Kremlin says many of its planes, such as trainers, should not be counted, and that NATO has an advantage of up to 3,600 aircraft.

The two sides also have proposed different methods of counting troops, with NATO seeking a limit of 275,000 deployed by either superpower in central Europe. The Warsaw Pact wants its proposed ceiling of 300,000 to cover British and French troops in West Germany. That would mean a reduction of about 30,000 U.S. troops in Central Europe and 325,000 for the Soviets.

Even sharper troop cuts may be in store, as the U.S. Defence Department weighs plans for a global personnel reduction of 275,000, or 12.9 per cent, that could include the withdrawal of further forces from Europe.

The consultation this week by Defence Secretary Dick Cheney with NATO allies in Brussels has prompted speculation that levels could drop further.

"It may very well be that they have consulted to drop the number, and found some formula to do that," said Rubin.

Eliminating chemical weapons stockpiles may prove more complicated, since 40 nations are involved in negotiations.

Mr. Clean takes over from ex-Mr. Clean

NEW DELHI (R) — Vishwanath Pratap Singh always said he did not want the job, but his election as leader of India's main opposition party on Friday meant he certainly would become the country's next prime minister.

Singh, 58, and better known as "V.P.", once said he would be a "disaster" as prime minister, and throughout the election campaign that toppled Rajiv Gandhi's Congress Party for only the second time since independence 42 years ago, kept disavowing interest in the job.

Almost no one believed him. Members of his Janata Dal Party said Singh was trying to consolidate support behind one leader to avoid a repetition of 1979, when the only previous non-Congress Party government fell apart after two years of squabbling and back-stabbing.

Singh emerged as India's main opposition leader after he abandoned Congress and Gandhi to wage war against corruption.

Gandhi's former finance and defence minister, Singh quit in April 1987 amid a furor over his private into alleged defence

payoffs. A later scandal over alleged bribes paid by Swedish armsmaker Bofors to win a \$1.3 billion field artillery contract became Singh's biggest issue. He was seen by many as the inheritor of Gandhi's "Mr. Clean" image.

Soft-spoken Singh began organising the opposition soon after he was expelled from Congress in July 1987 for challenging the prime minister's leadership.

Helping to found a new party, the Jan Morcha, Singh won a by-election in June, 1988 in his hometown of Allahabad campaigning on the corruption charges.

The victory persuaded three main opposition groups, the Janata Party, Lok Dal and Jan Morcha, to merge in late 1988 to create the Janata Dal, or People's Party, and to elect Singh president.

Singh was instrumental in persuading regional parties to join in a National Front to fight the November elections.

Then came the biggest surprise, not least to Gandhi, who called elections several weeks

earlier than necessary hoping to prevent the National Front agreeing on single candidates.

Singh and his colleagues did just that, ensuring Congress faced a single candidate from major opposition parties in the great majority of the contests for the first time since 1977.

Singh, an adopted scion of a minor princely family, is popularly known as "the rajah." He first joined Gandhi's cabinet in 1985 as finance minister, moving swiftly against tax evaders, currency violators, and the black economy.

The raids and reforms increased revenues and earned Singh the tag of top corruption fighter but they alienated powerful business interests, key contributors to Congress coffers.

In January 1987, Gandhi shifted Singh to the defence ministry, a portfolio Gandhi held, ostensibly because tensions with Pakistan required a full-time minister.

But Singh was soon in trouble again after he ordered an inquiry into an allegation of a \$23-million kickback in the purchase of West German sub-

marines in 1981, charges denied by the government and the manufacturer. Singh quit after cabinet colleagues accused him of rushing into probe without consulting them.

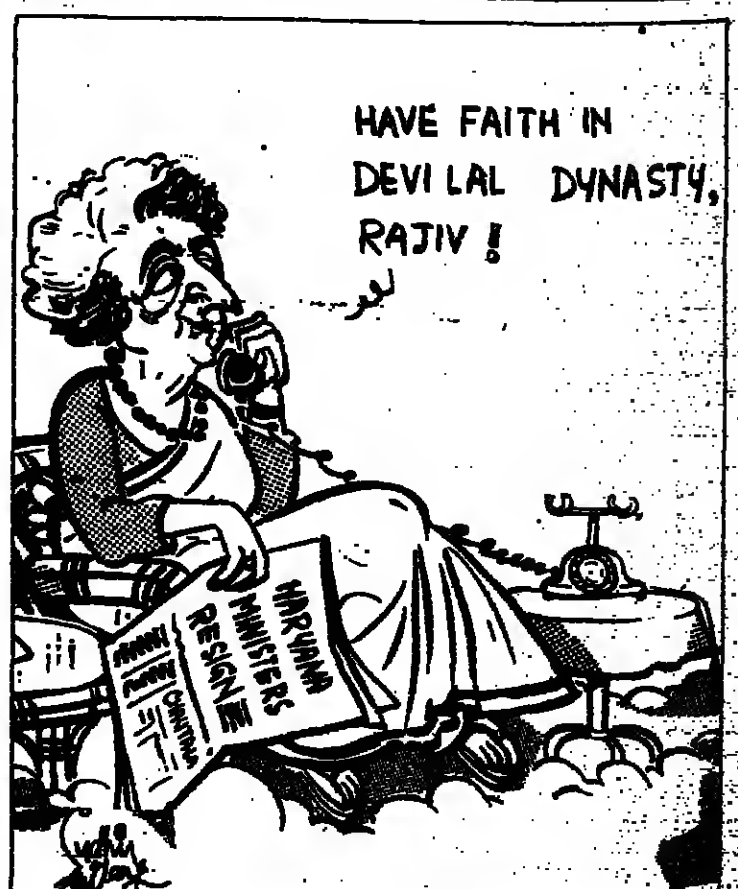
Singh was born on June 25, 1931 in Allahabad, also Gandhi's ancestral home. He was educated at Allahabad and Poona universities and gained degrees in arts, science and law.

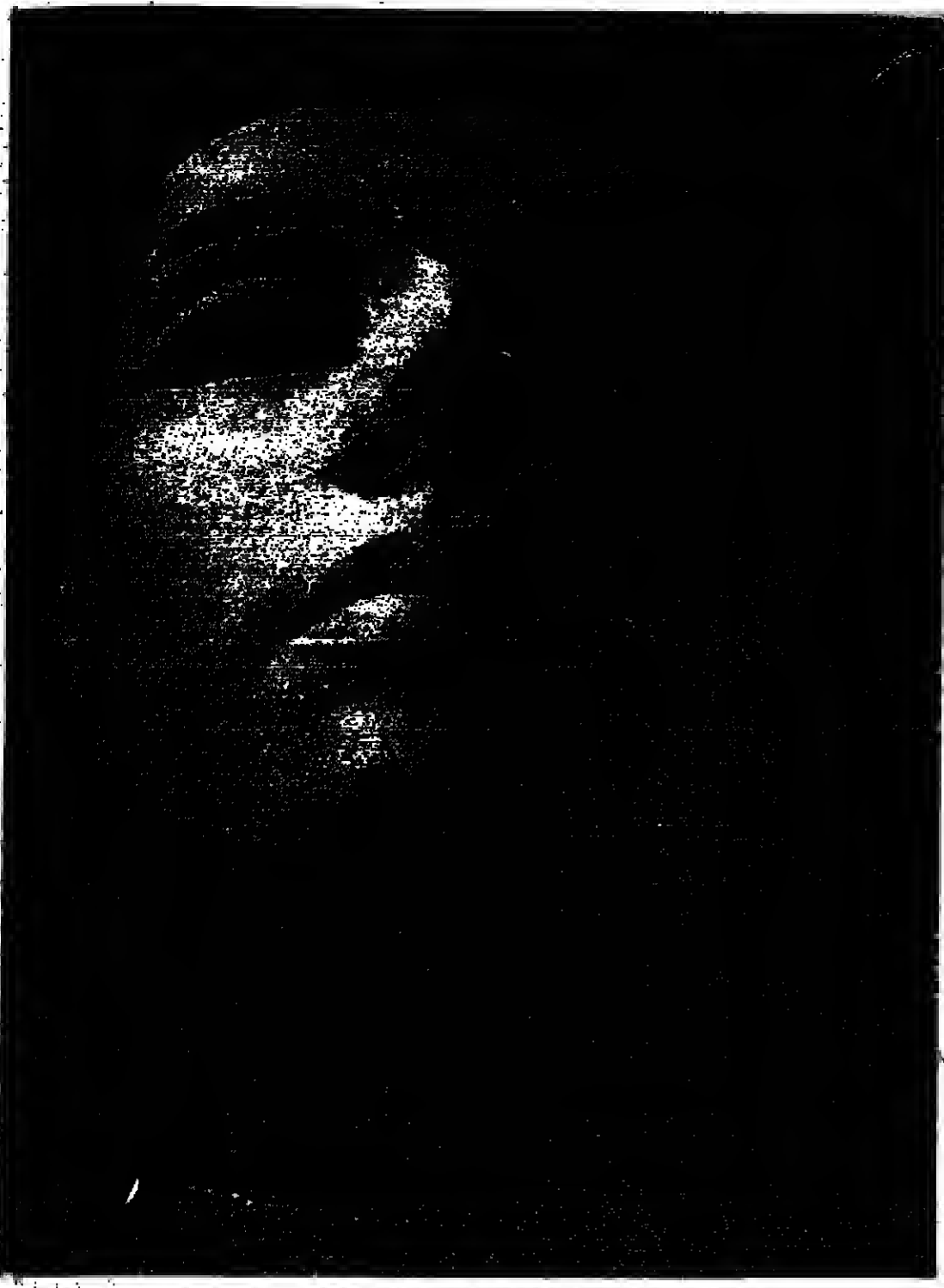
He joined Congress early in his career after donating a large part of the family estates to the landless.

Singh moved up the political ladder quickly. In 1974, he became deputy commerce minister and was elevated to the cabinet as full minister just two years later.

In 1980, he became chief minister of Uttar Pradesh, India's largest state but resigned two years later, blaming himself for failure to wipe out widespread banditry.

The following year he was back in India Gandhi's cabinet in his old job. Under Rajiv Gandhi, India's son, he continued climbing until, he says, he became sick of the corruption.





A sculpture of Nefertiti's head on display at the Institut du Monde Arabe

From Pharaohs to Islam

By Pascale Teinac

EGYPT has finally gained admission to the "Institut du Monde Arabe" (Arab World Institute) in Paris (from which it had been excluded since the opening of the institute in December 1987, owing to its relations with Israel), with a six month exhibition for which it has sent some thirty objects chosen from among the finest in its museums.

For the first time in France, "Egypt, Egypt" presents specimens of pharaonic, Greco-Roman, Coptic and Islamic art from "that Egypt of all time" which the organisers of the exhibition wanted to show "in its continuity and its interruptions, in its unity and its contradictions".

Two of these masterpieces, one pharaonic and the other Greco-Roman, have the added attraction of their novelty as they were only recently excavated from the ground of that country which is still rich with hidden treasures, and they are presented for the first time in public.

The giant headless grey granite cobra, going back to the 7th century B.C., discovered by chance a few months ago beneath the Temple of Luxor, proudly rears up on its base. It has lost its head but kept its scales and all its inscriptions from which it has been possible to conclude that it represented Annu-Ra Ka-Mutef. It was unearthed on 26th March and it lay at a depth of 4.5 metres, 0.7 metres above the water table.

This divine cobra is part of the group of 22 statues (including a magnificent representation of Hathor, the goddess of joy and music, and statues of Amenophis III and King Horemheb), discovered when workmen were clearing the paving in the courtyard of the temple built in Luxor in the 15th century B.C. by Amenophis III. According to Egyptian archaeologists, who hurried to the spot, the discovery of this hiding-place which had remained secret since remote antiquity, is one of the most important archaeological finds in this end of century in Egypt.

Nine other very high quality pharaonic objects have also been loaned by the Egyptian museum

in Cairo for this exhibition, which is also the first big artistic event at the Arab World Institute, designed by the architect Jean Nouvel and inaugurated in December 1987.

Other objects include superb heads of Queen Nefertiti and her husband the rebel pharaoh Akhenaton, Tutinosis III, and also the charming picture, engraved on a stone, of a princess languorously lying on cushions and eating a whole duck.

The second big surprise of the exhibition is a gold crown which was part of the "Treasure of Douchi", discovered last April during excavations carried out by the French Institute of Oriental Archaeology in a desert village, to the far south of the Kargah oasis. The famous treasure, consisting of a series of pure gold objects devoted to the god Serapis and dating from the 2nd century A.D., had been hidden at the bottom of a ceramic vase, no doubt at the period when Christians banned the worship of old pagan gods.

The crown was worn by the high-priest at official ceremonies in honour of the god, represented in the front part of the crown, framed in a temple facade. The crown consists of a thin band serving as a support for vine-leaves and shoots ending in poppy-seed heads, a symbol of fecundity.

Five superb objects from the Coptic museum in Cairo, including a limestone funeral stone from the 6th century, a bible-box from 1424 and an ikon from the 18th century, reveal the quality of this Coptic art which is far less known than that of Ancient Egypt or modern Islam. The stone bears the Christianised form of the famous hieroglyphic sign for life, "Ankh". Among Coptic Christians, it has become the "looped cross" with the upper arm of the cross forming a loop.

A nice tale accompanies the beautiful wooden mihrab presented in the Islamic part. A mihrab is a niche in a mosque used to show the direction of Mecca which is the way the faithful are supposed to turn when praying. This one does not come

from a mosque but from the mausoleum of a faithful Muslim woman, Sayyida Nafisa, born in Mecca, brought up in Medina, and the living in Cairo, in the 9th century. This young woman was able to recite, by heart, the commentaries of the Koran. For this she merited to have a mausoleum, then a mihrab and then a mosque next to the mausoleum, to accompany her in eternal life. Two caliphs, a Mameluke Sultan and an Emir in turn took it upon themselves to build, embellish and restore this building. Today, the mihrab is in the Islamic museum in Cairo. — French features

Integration is the key

By Nur Sati
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Since its inception in 1978, the Cerebral Palsy Foundation (CPF) has attended to over 4,500 children afflicted with cerebral palsy, but the biggest question that confronts the foundation today is how many more children are left unattended to, and how to go about offering cerebral palsied children proper education with a view to allowing them to play their rightful role in society.

According to CPF Medical Director Samira Babban, cerebral palsy figures as the major cause of childhood disability in Jordan. For the expert eye, its symptoms are easily detectable in early childhood, but the main problem is parental ignorance often leading to late diagnosis, thus depriving the child of chances of better adjustment to normal life.

"Cerebral palsy is not a disease," explains Babban. "It is a cerebral condition resulting from a multitude of factors, including injury during the mother's pregnancy, high fever etc. — anything that deprives the regular flow of oxygen to the child's brain and affects its growth."

Since the brain is the major part of the central nervous system, governing all functions of the body, the particular area of cells affected will determine the kind of affliction, Babban said. Other areas may also be damaged causing multiple disabilities for the child. The child has difficulty controlling his/her head or the use of limbs. The hands will become fisted and the legs scissored. These symptoms are known as spastic CP.

According to Babban, there are three other symptoms known as athetoid CP, where floppy and abnormal movements are found in the limbs. Ataxic CP is when there is a deficiency in body balance and coordination. Mixed CP is a combination of all these problems resulting in difficulties in vision and speech and learning problems and epilepsy.

What can be done to prevent cerebral palsy?

"Nutrition and good antenatal care are extremely important," she said. "Unfortunately, most mothers are ignorant of that fact. Studies prove that the health of a teenager affects her babies in the future."

The chances of having a CP child is more frequent in very young mothers or elderly mothers or those who have had many pregnancies. Spacing births is very important and helps avoid CP children, according to Babban.

Low-income and overcrowded families are more prone to having CP children because of parental neglect in health care and proper medical check-ups during pregnancies, she said.

According to CPF statistics for the year 1986, cerebral palsy accounted for about 80 per cent of all child disabilities in Jordan. In 1987 the number dropped to about 70 per cent, and now it is down to 50 per cent as a result of better health services for mothers and children, according to Babban.

She compared the figure with the Kingdom's mortality rate among children under the age of one and pointed out that there was a drop from 60 per 1,000 from three years ago to about 40 per 1,000 today.

However, the rate of CP children remains high in Jordan, which has one of the highest population growth rates in the world.

Not everyone is 'lucky'

The tragic aspect of CP is that it is not "curable." In some rare cases, though, almost total recovery to normal physical life is possible. Babban recounts the exceptional story of a two-and-a-half-year-old boy. "When he was brought to the (CPF) centre he was unable to sit correctly and when held in a standing position, he tip-toed with his legs crossed (in a scissor-like fashion)."

The boy's problem, according to Babban, was premature birth. He spent four years undergoing therapy and other forms of exercises at the centre, and correct management at home. At the end of four years, he managed to walk independently and attend regular school.

"Not all CP children are so lucky," Babban said.

Although some children are unable to coordinate their body movements, there is nothing wrong with their intelligence and mental abilities, she said. These children could be placed in normal schools, but the "major problem is getting the schools to accept such children."



According to CPF statistics for 1986, cerebral palsy accounted for about 80 per cent of all child disabilities in Jordan.

According to Babban, there is a large number of CP children, mostly from poor families, whom the CPF would like to place in government schools. "But, even if the children are accepted into these schools, there is always the problem of overcrowded classes which are not beneficial for the child who needs individual attention," she pointed out.

Babban explained a major problem these children face; they are rejected from regular schools, and they cannot all be expected to attend special schools for the mentally disabled. "These children are not mentally retarded and therefore they should have the right to participate in society," Babban said. "The child is left without an education because he/she is stranded in no-man's land."

The big question

It leaves frustrated parents asking the same questions over and over again: "Where will our children study? What future do they have without education?"

The demand raised by many parents of CP children is: A special school for cerebral palsied children.

The idea of a "special school" has its disadvantages — most prominent among them the fact that CP children will be deprived of the chance to integrate with "normal children" and thus rendered un-

able to learn in a regular social atmosphere.

"Regular schools will have to provide for such integration to bring CP children with normal mental ability into normal schools, where they belong," Babban noted. But, this requires special education teachers with an understanding of CP children's problems such as irregular, uncoordinated body movements and functions. For instance, special teachers could train other teachers to enable them to help these children to sit properly and to hold their pencils in the right way and spend many hours teaching them to write properly.

"The most important element in this process is to have teachers develop an understanding of the child's problem and a willingness to help," Babban emphasised.

The Cerebral Palsy Foundation is striving to open a kindergarten for those unfortunate children without schooling opportunities, Babban said.

"We will prepare them for the integration process in the future," she said. "The children will begin their physical training and pre-school education from the age of four and they will be treated as proper students and not as rehabilitation students," Babban added. "When they learn to sit, coordinate and use their hands in all the basic functions, they will integrate smoothly in ordinary schools."

Transport problem

Another problem facing parents is transportation of their child, according to Babban. As the child gets older, he/she gets heavier, making it virtually impossible for parents to take the child to and from the centre regularly. "This is one of the reasons for dropouts in our centre," Babban said. "We cannot help all the families with transport; there are too many," she added. "It is sad to realise that transportation problems could determine whether a CP child could get the proper attention he or she deserves."

An official of the CPF has this problem with his son. His case, however, is not so drastic as many other parents, but this is only because he has authority in the centre and he becomes an exception. "My boy has grown up and is too heavy to be carried by me or my wife," says the father. "We are too old for strenuous activities. A few years back, we had a maid, but we have to terminate her services simply because it became too expensive. Occasionally, people from the centre help us, but this is only because I work at CPF. Now, I am not able to bring my child regularly and his situation is worsening. He is becoming like a vegetable; he just eats and sleeps."

He poses a question to the society at large: "For how long can this go on?"

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Overspending traps N. Yemen

BAHRAIN (R) — Banking on a cash bonanza from its oil fields, North Yemen overspent during its first year as an oil exporter and has fallen behind with its debt payments, Gulf-based bankers say.

They said that lower than expected oil prices during 1988 and a drop in workers' remittances — a major source of foreign exchange — has badly hit the country's balance of payments.

The government-owned Yemen Bank for Reconstruction and Development (YBRD) borrowed too much money to finance imports over the past two years and can no longer meet interest payments on its loans, the bankers said.

"What they've done is they have overstretched themselves on the back of anticipated oil revenues," a banker said.

"They went for the big ticket

and imported too much...and it's caused a very big foreign exchange squeeze," he said.

Conservative North Yemen, a country of 10 million people, began exporting oil late in 1987. Its Marib oil fields, now producing around 200,000 barrels per day, brought in 3.9 billion riyals (\$397 million) in 1988, boosting total export revenue ninefold to 4.4 billion (\$447 million).

But imports rose to a record 12.8 billion riyals (\$1.3 billion) in 1988, up from 12.3 billion (\$1.2 billion) in 1987. The 1988 trade deficit was 8.4 billion riyals (\$857 million).

Bankers said the YBRD had stopped payments on a \$120 million syndicated five-year loan in 1988, a year after it was signed. Interest payments on an \$11 million short-term import transaction halted during 1989.

"They are not paying on time at the moment and banks are rather concerned about the credit risk," a banker said.

"They need the money they have to invest in development," said another.

Bureaucratic red tape also undermined the country's capacity to pay, the bankers said. Economists said a six per cent devaluation of the riyal in 1988 worsened the foreign exchange shortage.

Remittances from abroad, mainly from workers in Saudi Arabia, plummeted to 3.2 billion

riyals (\$326 million) in 1988 from 7.8 billion (\$757 million) in 1987. But bankers said that in the long term the country looked an attractive credit risk.

"In the long term, their oil revenues should help...they do have a large population and the absorptive capacity of their economy is probably higher than any (other) on the Arabian Peninsula," a banker said.

Moves towards unity with South Yemen, after years of uneasy relations, should increase foreign firms' interest in both countries, the bankers said. Sanaa and Aden Friday announced they had approved a draft constitution for a unified state.

A foreign consortium is negotiating with both countries jointly for oil exploration rights along their common border.

Government levies new taxes, fees on luxury imports

AMMAN (Petra) — The Ministry of Finance and Customs Saturday issued a statement elaborating on a series of measures and regulations issued by the Council of Ministers on Nov. 25, concerning the restructuring of some taxes and customs fees.

The statement said that the Customs Department has been entrusted with implementing the decisions and resolutions which, it said, were designed to facilitate customs duty collection procedures, increase government domestic revenues, slow imports of non-essential commodities and ensure sufficient basic commodities for the public.

According to the statement, the following commodities have been exempted from customs duty:

Wheat and wheat flour, books and publications, crude oil, machinery used in industry, agriculture and medical equipment, aircraft spare parts, children's milk, antibiotic medicine, raw fat oil used in various processing operations, and all supplies imported by the Ministry of Supply like rice, sugar and meat.

The statement said that the Council of Ministers has decided to increase custom duty on certain commodities which were banned in the past year.

It said that customs duty on all vehicles would rise by 20 per cent; on television sets, 10 per cent; on refrigerators and freezers from 10 to 30 per cent; air conditioners 16 per cent; marble, 10 per cent; red brick 25 per cent; tiles 25 per cent; artificial flowers 25 per cent; wall paper 25 per cent; chandeliers 25 per cent; microwave ovens 25 per cent; furniture 15 per cent; radiators 15 per cent; video sets and video cameras six per cent and sanitary equipment by 10 per cent.

The statement noted that the Customs Department would levy a 15 per cent duty on imports according to the following rates: Six per cent in "unified margins," six per cent municipalities and universities fees and one per cent as a value added tax in accordance with article 28 of the 1969 tax law.

The statement pointed out that it charges duty also on certain commodities like mineral oil, tyres, tea and timber but gave no details.

ECONOMIC NEWS BRIEFS

Banking seminar opens in Jordan

AMMAN (Petra) — A seminar entitled "Marketing Banking Services" opened at the Institute of Management Saturday with the participation of officials and executives from banks and financial institutions in Jordan. The eight-day seminar will deal with the concepts and matters related to banking marketing, the banking marketing environment and following up marketing procedures among other topics.

Riyadh, Rabat set up joint company

NICOSIA (R) — Saudi Arabia and Morocco Saturday signed an agreement to set up a joint investment company, the Saudi Press Agency (SPA) reported. The company's capital of 400 million Moroccan dirhams (\$47.1 million) will be paid by the governments of both countries, the agency, monitored in Nicosia, said. It said the company would invest in industrial, agricultural, tourism and real estate sectors in both countries and abroad. The agreement was signed in the Saudi capital of Riyadh by Saudi Finance and National Economy Minister Mohammad Abul Khail and his Moroccan counterpart Mohammad Berrada, who is visiting Saudi Arabia. Both countries have agreed to exempt the company of any tariffs on its profits, SPA said.

Istanbul exchange interests Tunisians

ISTANBUL (R) — A Tunisian delegation will visit Turkey this week to study the Istanbul stock exchange as part of Tunisia's financial reforms, Turkish officials have said. "They are copying quite a lot from the Turkish market... there are many similarities between the two economies," one senior Turkish exchange official said. The Tunisian exchange, formed in 1969 on the Paris model, would be relaunched in early 1990 with a version of Istanbul's new continuous auction system, the officials added. The Istanbul market was relaunched in January 1986, since when the index has risen from a base of 100 to over 1,500 last week with an end-November market capitalisation of 10.25 trillion lira (\$4.4 billion). Trading volume has also boomed since foreigners were allowed to repatriate profits from market dealings in August. Tunisia's exchange chief, Mustafa Nabil, visited Istanbul in June. Another delegation visited a month ago and Istanbul exchange specialists spent last week in Tunis.

IMF cuts off credit to Honduras

WASHINGTON (AP) — The International Monetary Fund (IMF) Friday declared the Central American republic of Honduras ineligible for new loans because it has fallen \$26.6 million behind in payments due on earlier loans. Honduras became the ninth country to be declared ineligible. The last was Somalia on May 6, 1988. Others are Vietnam, Guyana, Liberia, Sudan, Peru, Zambia and Sierra Leone.

CAEU holds comprehensive deliberations Wednesday

AMMAN (Petra) — Arab ministers of economy, trade and finance will gather in Amman Wednesday for the 52nd meeting of the Council of Arab Economic Unity (CAEU), according to an announcement by the council's Secretary-General Hassao Ibrahim.

Ibrahim said that the ministers will discuss among other things international economic issues, changes in the world economy, the impact of international changes on the Arab World's economy, Arab economic integration and other affiliated topics.

Economic blocs in the Arab World and their advantages to the national economies of the

Arab countries will also be reviewed at the meeting which, Ibrahim expected to yield very beneficial results to the Arab World.

Ibrahim said that he will present a report to the meeting outlining in detail the current economic situation in the Arab World, the economy of the occupied Arab territories and the impact of Zionist occupation on Palestinian economy, ways to support the Palestinian people under occupation, and procedural matters related to the CAEU's function.

He said that a general 1990 budget for the council would be scrutinised, along with the council's financial difficulties.

Boissel becomes new Amra Forum Hotel chief

AMMAN (J.T.) — Amra Forum Hotel bid a farewell to Mr. Alfonso Maloschik, general manager, who is leaving Jordan after four and half years of service. Mr. Maloschik began at the Petra Forum Hotel and subsequently in 1987 became director of operations of Forum hotels in Jordan based at Amra Hotel.

He is leaving to Saudi Arabia to join Inter. Continental Hotels as director of operation and general manager of the Riyadh Inter. Continental Hotel.

At a recent cocktail party hosted by Dr. Mahdi Al Farhan director general of the Social Security Corporation, Mr. Pierre Boissel was introduced to government officials, diplomats and the community at large to succeed Mr. Maloschik.

Mr. Boissel is a French national. He is a graduate of the Lyon Hotel School, and held executive positions with Inter-Continental Hotels in Africa and the Middle East. He has worked for Inter-Continental Hotels for over 16 years — now to join Forum hotels in Jordan.

AMMAN EXCHANGE RATES

Saturday December 2, 1989
Central Bank official rates

	Buy	Sell	French franc	105.1	106.2
U.S. dollar	642.0	648.0	Japanese yen (for 100)	447.7	452.2
Pound Sterling	1002.8	1012.8	Dutch guilder	318.4	321.6
Deutsche mark	359.0	362.6	Swedish crown	100.8	101.8
Swiss franc	400.7	404.7	Italian lira (for 100)	48.7	49.2
			Belgian franc (for 10)	171.7	173.4

Jaguar shareholders welcome Ford

LONDON (R) — Shareholders in British luxury carmaker Jaguar voted overwhelmingly Friday in favour of a \$1.6 billion (\$2.5 billion) takeover bid from U.S. motor giant Ford. The 99.4 per cent "yes" vote was declared after Jaguar chairman Sir John Egan was forced to call a ballot of all shareholders because small investors initially voted on a show of hands to reject the takeover. The vote means that Jaguar, with a long history of building sleek saloons and sports models, will be the last British independent carmaker to pass into foreign ownership. The government paved the way for Ford's bid last month by scrapping its so-called golden share which has blocked hostile takeovers since the firm's privatisation in 1984. Egan said Jaguar — dubbed "the big cat" by motoring enthusiasts — had made great strides over the last five years. But he added: "Despite the progress we have made, we need to collaborate with a larger international car manufacturer."

Shell, B.P. report lower profits

LONDON (R) — Oil giants Shell and B.P. have unveiled lower third-quarter profits, blaming crude oil price volatility on world markets. Royal Dutch/Shell Group said net income for the third quarter of the year fell to £652 million (\$1.03 billion), 16 per cent lower than the same period in 1988. British Petroleum (B.P.) Co. PLC said its net income was 33.6 per cent lower for the three-month period at £211 million (\$333.4 million).

Iran, China envisage \$600m trade

NICOSIA (R) — Iran and China have signed a trade agreement estimated to be worth \$600 million in 1990, the Iranian news agency IRNA has reported. IRNA quoted Iranian Finance Minister Mohsen Nourbakhsh as saying convertible currencies would be used in trade between the two countries from next year eliminating problems arising from barter exchanges. He said there would be a balance between Iran's non-oil exports to China and its purchases. The agreement provides for joint industrial cooperation, construction and expansion of paper and tyre manufacturing factories and power stations, he added. He said a Chinese delegation was expected to visit Iran in the next two months for further talks.

Greece tops EC inflation rate

LUXEMBOURG (R) — Price increases in Greece, Italy and Britain pushed up inflation in the European Community (EC) by 0.5 per cent in October but the bloc's inflation rate was unchanged at an annual 5.3 per cent, the EC's statistics office Eurostat has said. The rate is above the 4.5 per cent recorded in the United States and Japan's 3.1 per cent. Eurostat said Greece had the biggest price rise last month, up two per cent from September, while Italy saw prices rise one per cent and Britain 0.8 per cent. With a year-on-year rate of 13.8 per cent, Greece also topped the EC's inflation league. The Netherlands was lowest with 1.3 per cent.

THE BETTER HALF.

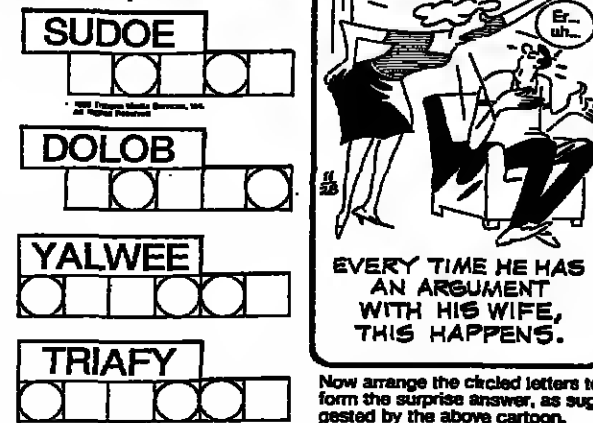
By Harris



"Stanley isn't very good at Mexican cooking. He thought a burrito was a very small burro."

JUMBLE.

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.



Answer: HIM
(Answers tomorrow)
Yesterday's Jumbles: BEFT PUTTY HEAVEN FALLOW
Answer: What a good police dog might put—
TEETH INTO THE LAW

Weekly Amman Financial Market trading

AMMAN (J.T.) — The following table summarizes trading activities at the Amman Financial Market starting Saturday Nov. 25, '89 and ending Wednesday Nov. 29, '89. (Figures in Jordanian dinars)

Name of company	Number of shares	Volume of trade	Opening price	Closing price	Par value
Banking and financial institutions					
Industrial Development Bank	1700	2805	1.640	1.650	1.000
Jordan Islamic Bank	947	2253	2.320	2.390	1.000
Jordan Kuwait Bank	1915	2588	1.350	1.360	1.000
Housing Bank	20205	41216	2.040	2.040	1.000
Arab Jordan Investment Bank	51	151	2.900	2.970	1.000
Cairo Amman Bank	—	—	—	—	—
Bank of Jordan	627	8848	14.100	14.020	5.000
Arab Bank	4260	924568	212.000	217.000	10.000
Jordan National Bank	2610	6889	2.510	2.540	1.000
Jordan Finance House for Development	14048	48667	3.450	3.330	1.000
Jordan Investment and Finance Bank	—	—	—	—	—
National Financial Investments	75892	148584	1.970	1.950	1.000
National Portfolio Securities	4114	10276	2.520	2.450	1.000
Arab Finance Corporation (Jordan)	—	—	—	—	—
Jordan Securities Corporation	—	—	—	—	—
Real Estate Financing Corporation	—	—	—	—	—
Beit Al Mai Saving & Investment for Housing	5000	4650	0.890	0.930	1.000
Insurance and reinsurance					
Middle East Insurance	1000	1900	1.900	1.900	1.000
Jordan French Insurance	16200	29798	1.850	1.850	1.000
Jordan Insurance	1750	4358	2.500	2.450	1.000
Arab Life and Accident Insurance	1300	2150	1.700	1.780	1.000
Yamook Insurance and Reinsurance	3174	5954	1.900	1.870	1.000
Holy Land Insurance	2740	3965	1.500	1.400	1.000
Philadelphia Insurance	150	198	1.320	1.320	1.000
Arab Union International Insurance	355	543	1.550	1.530	1.000
Jerusalem Insurance	—	—	—	—	—
Jordan-Gulf Insurance	—	—	—	—	—
General Arabia Insurance	—	—	—	—	—
National Ahliya Insurance	—	—	—	—	—
Arab Belgian Insurance and Reinsurance	—	—	—	—	—
United Insurance	—	—	—	—	—
Services and industries					
General Investments	100	145	1.440	1.450	1.000
Imna for Investment and Financial Facilities	—	—	—	—	—
Darco for Housing and Investment	3000	3070	1.020	1.030	1.000
Real Estate Investment (Agrico)	353845	240062	0.630	0.680	1.000
Jordan Gulf Real Estate Investment	34500	13508	0.390	0.390	1.000
Petra Enterprises and Leasing Equipments	6500	1105	0.670	0.670	1.000
Equipment Leasing & Maintenance/Tajero	1500	555	0.870	0.870	1.000
International Contracting & Investment	—	—	—	—	—
Jordanian Electric Power	14235	19518	1.380	1.380	1.000
Arab International Hotels	526710	850411	1.530	1.630	1.000
Hotels and Tourism	—	—	—	—	—
United Middle East and Commodore Hotels	100	50	0.480	0.500	1.000
Garage Owners Federation Office	—	—	—	—	—
Jordan National Shipping Lines	34950	95602	2.700	2.720	1.000
Jordan Press Foundation	—	—	—	—	—
Jordan Press and Publishing	—	—	—	—	—
Dar Al Shab Press, Printing and Publishing	—	—	—	—	—
Jordan Dairy	153414	244155	1.430	1.710	1.000
Arab Pharmaceutical Manufacturing	33446	174723	5.130	5.280	1.000
Intermediate Petrochemical Industries	85850	244583	2.790	2.840	1.000
Jordan Phosphate Mines	1821	7648	4.250	4.200	1.000
Industrial, Commercial and Agricultural (Intaj)	325386	917480	2.690	2.880	1.000
Arab Chemical Detergent Industries	115	742	6.400	6.450	1.000
Jordan Kuwait for Agricultural Products	5000	3150	0.910	0.880	1.000
Jordan Sweets and Chocolate Manufacturing	—	—	—	—	—
Aladdin Industries	70325	252305	3.500	3.640	1.000
Arab Aluminum Manufacturing	170533	461704	2.580	2.730	1.000
Jordan Worst Mills	—	—	—	—	—
Jordan Ceramics	23629	73371	3.000	3.200	1.000
Chemical Industries	1250	3423	2.790	2.790	1.000
Jordan Industries and March (JIMCO)	125385	202439	1.570	1.600	1.000
Dar Al Daw' for Development and Investment	4163	15172	3.590	3.650	1.000
National Steel Industries	15676	45282	2.790	2.900	1.000
Universal Chemical Industries	57127	256204	4.490	4.560	1.000
General Mining	—	—	—	—	—
Jordan Petroleum Refinery	6240	49871	7.970	7.930	1.000
Jordan Lime & Brick	38950	5503	0.150	0.140	1.000
National Industries	—	—	—	—	—
Arab Paper Converting and Trading	2500	928	0.400	0.360	1.000
Arab Investment and International Trade	77300	46643	0.610	0.590	1.000
Jordan Wooden Industries (JWICO)	11903	40940	3.410	3.470	1.000
Livestock and Poultry	—	—	—	—	—
Jordan Pipes Manufacturing	—	—	—	—	—
Rafia Industrial for Plastic Bags	34770	117411	3.350	3.300	1.000
Jordan Paper and Cardboard	169	1048	6.150	6.200	1.000
Jordan Rockwool Industries	254220	597449	2.210	2.400	1.000
Trans-Jordan Minerals Research	50	54	1.020	1.080	1.000
Jordan Himeh Mineral	—	—	—	—	—
Orient Dry Batteries Factory	—	—	—	—	—
Woolen Industries	—	—	—	—	—
Jordan Tanning	—	—	—	—	—
Jordan Printing and Packaging	132	541	4.100	4.100	1.000
Jordan Tobacco and Cigarette	—	—	—	—	—
Mas Industries	—	—	—	—	—
Arab Center for Pharmaceuticals & Chemicals	297421	728287	2.450	2.460	1.000
National Cable & Wire Manufacturing	16300	65276	4.020	4.020	1.000
Jordan Spinning & Weaving	312599	899330	2.750	2.920	1.000
Jordan Sulpho Chemicals	124105	351649	2.790	2.820	1.000
Jordan Cement Factories	78158	78556	1.000	1.010	1.000
Jordan Glass Industries	186374	26509	1.440	1.420	1.000
Jordan Precast Concrete Industry	137096	84249	0.610	0.610	1.000
Grand total	3,784,883	8,711,990			

CORRECTION

In a story headlined Jordan wins \$300m deposit, \$50m loan and reduced rates in its Saturday edition, the Jordan Times quoted Reuters as quoting a source as explaining the instalments that Jordan was to pay in interest due to the London Club. By an inadvertent error, a payment of \$16 million that Jordan would pay on Jan. 10 was left out of the story. We regret the error.

Peanuts



Mutt'n Jeff



Andy Capp



Lendl, Becker advance to Masters semifinals

NEW YORK (AP) — Raw power ruled the Masters tennis tournament as Ivan Lendl and Boris Becker each advanced to Saturday's semifinal round undefeated.

Lendl and Becker simply had too much power Friday night as they moved into the semifinals of the season-ending tournament with perfect 3-0 records. Lendl downed John McEnroe 6-3, 6-3 after Becker stopped Stefan Edberg 6-1, 6-4.

The delicate chips, disguised drop shots and perfect volley placements had no chance. There was no finesse involved. Just heavy punches delivered usually from the baseline, rocketing forehands and backhands that found all of the passing lanes and caught all of the corners.

In Friday's final match, Aaron Krickstein posted his first victory of the tournament, defeated French Open champion Michael Chang 6-3, 7-6 (7-5). Chang lost all three of his Round-Robin matches.

Despite their losses, both McEnroe and Edberg also move into Saturday's semifinals because of the Round-Robin format. But Friday's results did determine the pairings.

McEnroe, handicapped by Lendl's blistering strokes, will face Becker. Edberg takes on Lendl.

"It's like facing the firing squad," McEnroe said of his semifinal opponent.

Lendl, the dominant player of the 1980s, is seeking his 10th consecutive trip to the final and his sixth Masters title. His performance against McEnroe on

Friday night showed he is ready to recapture the crown won last year by Becker.

"The way he's hitting the ball right now is incredible," McEnroe said. "I've never seen him play that well."

Lendl never lost his serve, which gave him every chance to tee off when McEnroe was serving. He broke the left-hander in the third and ninth games of the first set and the fourth game of the second.

McEnroe never got more than one point in any game on Lendl's serve until the third game of the second set. Then, although they battled to deuce three times, McEnroe never had a break point.

In all, Lendl lost only eight points on his serve, five of them in one game. The right-hander, who now lives in the United States, blasted six aces, five of them in the second set.

"It's always easy if you don't lose your serve," Lendl said.

And he brushed off questions about not having to play Becker in the semifinals.

"Losing in the final is not enough," he said. "If you want to win it, you have to beat everybody."

Becker flashed through the first set in 28 minutes, the fifth game showing the West German at his best and his worst.

He built a 40-0 lead on his fourth, fifth and sixth aces of the night. Then he double-faulted twice before winning the game and building his lead to 4-1.

Edberg put up a stiffer battle in the second set, although because of the tournament's format it was nearly impossible to tell if there was the usual intensity that has been present in their previous 19 career meetings. And neither player questioned any line calls, a unique experience in itself, during the 77-minute match.

Becker provided most of the

power, whether on his serve or in his groundstrokes. But where Becker's game was full of fire, Edberg's play was even cooler than usual.

Becker lost just 13 points in his nine service games and faced only two break points on his serve, in the third game of the opening set and in the final game of the match. He finished with nine aces.

Despite the problems with the format, the week was a rewarding one for the players.

Lendl earned \$800,000 for winning the year-long Nabisco grand prix points race. Add to that the

\$15,000 he made by qualifying for the Masters and the \$60,000 he earned by winning his first two matches.

Becker, who finished second in the points battle, earned \$550,000 from the singles bonus pool, while Edberg collected \$400,000, Brad Gilbert \$250,000 and McEnroe \$150,000. McEnroe also earned \$17,000 from the doubles bonus pool.

The winning semifinalists in this eight-player field will pocket \$60,000, with the champion earning an additional \$150,000. If any player captures the title undefeated, he will win \$315,000.

Liverpool, Villa top English 1st division

LONDON (R) — Liverpool and Aston Villa eased two points clear at the top of the English first division on Saturday as Chelsea's impressive unbeaten home run came to a spectacular end.

Two goals from Welsh striker Ian Rush swept league leaders Liverpool to a 4-1 win at managerless bottom club Manchester City.

Liverpool, fifth in the table six points off the lead just two weeks ago, were always in command against City, yet to find a replacement for manager Mel Machin who was sacked last month.

Rush shot Liverpool ahead in the eighth minute after City goalkeeper Andy Dibble had blocked Dane Jan Molby's effort.

The Manchester side, who have won just one of the last eight matches, held their own for the remainder of the half but then went 2-0 down to a superb solo goal by England striker Peter Beardsley three minutes after halftime.

Steve McMahon hit the third 10 minutes later before Clive Allen pulled one back for City from the penalty spot. Rush completed the scoring three minutes from time with his ninth goal of the season.

But Chelsea, one of four sides on 27 points at the start of the day, lost ground as they surrendered their 28-match unbeaten run at Stamford Bridge by crashing 5-2 to London neighbours Wimbledon.

Chelsea's former Wimbledon goalkeeper Dave Beasant had a miserable afternoon. He had not lost in 19 home appearances as a Chelsea player and must have expected to extend that run when Kerry Dixon put the hosts 1-0 up after 70 seconds.

But two goals apiece from Terry Gibson and Dennis Wise plus another from Alan Cork left fourth-placed Chelsea's proud record in tatters.

Third-placed Arsenal, the league champions, tackle Manchester United on Sunday.

But Platt clinched the points with a winner which extended Villa's impressive record to eight wins from their last nine games.

Villa, seeking to go clear at the top for the first time since they won the championship in 1981, went ahead through Ian Olney in the second minute against Forest.

Celtic give go-ahead for Aitken move

GLASGOW (R) — Glasgow Celtic on Tuesday reluctantly agreed to allow their Scottish soccer international Roy Aitken to leave the club.

Aitken submitted a written transfer request recently after claiming he was the victim of a media vendetta and that his family had been affected by adverse publicity.

Billy McNeill, manager of the Scottish premier league side, spent two weeks trying to convince his captain to stay, but on Tuesday he said: "I have been unable to dissuade Roy from the course he has chosen."

"Obviously he feels strongly that he and his family have been hurt over the past few months and he wants to go. Now we will let other clubs know that we will listen to offers. If a serious offer is received it will be considered."

Kingdom gets Jesse Owens Award

WASHINGTON (AP) — Roger Kingdom, the best high hurdler in the world, was named the top track-and-field athlete in the United States Friday night when he was given the 1989 Jesse Owens Award.

Kingdom, 27, received 2,367 points in balloting by 514 members of the athletics congress, athletes, officials and the media.

Women's 400-metre hurdler Sandra Farmer-Patrick finished second among the five finalists with 1,639 points. She was followed by long jumper-triple jumper Mike Conley with 1,450 points, women's distance runner Patsie Plummer with 1,147 and decathlete Dave Johnson with 1,107.

Points were awarded on a 5-4-3-2-1 basis.

Kingdom, who lives in Monroeville, Pennsylvania, had a sensational season. The two-time Olympic gold medalist, also a finalist for the Owens Award in 1988, broke the world record in the 110-metre high hurdles, won

the world indoor title in the 60-metre hurdles and won the world cup championship this year.

Five days after his victory in the world indoor championships at Budapest, Hungary, in March, Kingdom missed the world record by one-hundredth of a second, clocking 7.37 seconds for the 60-metre hurdles in a meet in Greece.

Outdoors, he won the U.S. championships, compiled winning streaks of seven and nine races in Europe, and highlighted his season by breaking Renaldo Nehemiah's 8-year-old record of 12.93 by winning the 110 hurdles in 12.92 at Zurich, Switzerland.

A few weeks later, he capped his magnificent season by winning at the world cup in Barcelona, Spain, in a wind-aided 12.87, the fastest ever under any conditions.

Despite his worldwide success, Kingdom was not satisfied.

"I am on a mission," he said. "My goal is to outdo myself."

In an effort to accomplish that, Kingdom, the 1984 and 1988 Olympic gold medalist in the 110 hurdles — only he and the late Lee Calhoun, also an American, have won that event twice during the games — is planning to go for a third gold in 1992 at Barcelona and become a decathlete.

"I am a very competitive person," he said.

"I am a very competitive person," he said.

HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3, 1989

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Richter Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Between now and the New Moon of the 28th you will be in the midst of winding up some conditions that have been confusing to you and to your immediate circle of friends.

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) You will do well now with any business matters with large companies. Going with your family on a trip will be pleasant.

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) Be careful of people in your home that will cause problems. You will be more successful in business if it is done right.

GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) A communication from a distance will bring favorable news for your family. Money matters will be very important now.

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) A big business man will help you in an important project. Welcome a couple from afar into your home.

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) A younger person will give you some excellent business advice. Include some outside friends in your entertaining at home.

VIRGO: (August 22 to September 22) Get ready to receive some extraordinary people into your home. A change of tactics in romance will please your mate.

LIBRA: (September 23 to October 22) Straighten out any questions.

you may have in respect to business. Your mate will do something that will please you.

SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) You will have to think big if you want to do well in business. Don't hesitate to accept the advice of a close friend.

SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) Take your family out now to a special social event. Costs should be kept to a minimum when fixing your home.

CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 20) You will have brilliant ideas for ways to invest your assets. Invite friends from distance away into your home.

AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) Don't allow forceful people to upset your business affairs today. Dramatic situations with unusual friends should be tolerated.

PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) Entertaining at home should be done quietly. Be off to unique locations proposed by a close business friend.

Today's child: If your child were born today he or she will be capable of getting old-time business working on a more modern and productive level to the satisfaction of all concerned. This person can take solid ideas from others and while them down to their most practical application.

"The stars impel, they do not compel." What you make of your life is largely up to you.

THE Daily Crossword

by Fran Ragus

ACROSS

- Turk. titles
- Style
- Hit noisily
- Pueblo tribe
- Oahu perch
- Big eat
- Relief
- Improve
- Bakery worker
- Profile
- Diner
- Describe
- Skilled
- Interrupt
- Brilliant hat
- Behave
- Does. panacea
- Shear
- Le Coq
- Albino
- Of ancient
- Troy
- Like it
- Tut
- Edible tuber
- Yemen city
- Tapered
- structures
- Russ. chess master
- Over
- Turned
- Playerlight
- Clifford
- Lawyer. abbr.
- Eng. river
- This — did it
- Obliquely
- Spoken
- Treat badly
- fact
- Tra —
- Portray
- Indignant
- Row of seats
- Friend
- Walls
- Door
- Triumph
- Lock of
- Arid section
- Imitated
- Secondary job
- Title
- Bemoan
- Polk money
- Opening
- Dried grape
- Calm tears
- Concepts
- Gauche's
- weapon
- Russ. river
- Lanky
- Certain
- Samoan
- port
- Belg.
- river
- Type
- Quitting

Saturday's Puzzle Solved:

DOWN

1. Triumph
2. Lock of
3. Arid section
4. Imitated
5. Secondary job
6. Title
7. Bemoan
8. Polk money
9. Opening
10. Dried grape
11. Calm tears
12. Concepts
13. Gauche's
14. weapon
15. Russ. river
16. Lanky
17. Certain
18. Samoan
19. port
20. Belg.
21. river
22. Type
23. Quitting

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF
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STAR IN THE WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP

Both vulnerable. West deals.

NORTH
♠ 9 3
♥ 7 2
♦ A 10 9 7 6 5 2
♣ K 10

EAST
♠ 8 7 6 4 2
♥ Q J 10 6
♦ Q J 3
♣ 9 7 6 2

SOUTH
♠ K J 10 5
♥ A K 4 3
♦ Q
♣ A Q 5 3

The bidding:
West North East South
1 ♠ 2 ♣ Pass 3 NT
Pass Pass Pass

Opening lead: Queen of ♣

The newest bridge magazine to see the light of day is *Bridge Today* (published by Granovetter Books, 18 Village View Bluff, Ballston Lake, N.Y. 12019). Five issues annually, \$21 per year. The latest issue notes the fact that "there was much poor play in the Venice Olympiad," and cites several hands to back up its point. See if you can land the contract on this hand from the semifinal between Britain and Sweden.

You reach three no trump after your partner makes a weak jump overall. West leads the queen of hearts, and your task is to collect nine tricks.

At the other table the British declarer, also in three no trump, had no chance to strut his stuff. When the queen of diamonds was led at trick two, the Swedish West covered with the king. Now declarer could win with the ace and continue with the ten of diamonds to force out the jack. Since the king of clubs was still on the table as an entry, declarer had 11 easy tricks.

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Offers should be submitted to the Australian Embassy in sealed envelopes before 1200 hours on Wednesday 6 December 1989.

Vehicle may be inspected at the Australian Embassy in Jabal Amman.

MANY VILLAS AND APARTMENTS FOR RENT & SALE

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Wael Real Estate
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REQUIRED Sales Representative

Shoa'a Feasibility Studies Consultants and Advertising is seeking to hire sales representative on the following conditions:

- 3 years experience in this field.
- Has a private car.
- Fluent in the English language.

All interested must write to P.O. Box 925759, Amman Jordan.

Enclose C.V. and personal photos, all applications accepted only during one week.

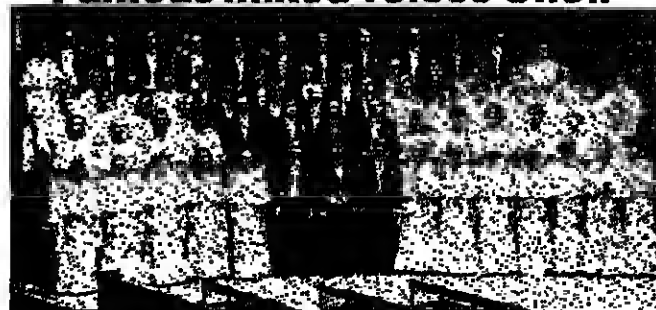
REQUIRED

A Multinational Company that deals with industrial products is in need of the following personnel for its operations in Middle East:

- Marketing Manager:**
Qualifications:
— Holder of a Civil or Mechanical Engineering Degree, a dual Degree Engineering and Bus. Adm. is an asset.
— Have the ability to work with people of different disciplines and possess sales talents.
— Have minimum of 8 years of a relevant experience, 3 of them in a supervisory level.
- Sales Engineers:**
Qualifications:
— Holder of a Civil or Mechanical Engineering Degree.
— Have the ability to work with people of different disciplines and possess sales talents.
- Operation Manager:**
Qualifications:
— Holder of an Engineering or Bus. Adm. Degree.
— Have minimum of 10 years experience in sales, 3 of them in a supervisory level.
- Finance and Administration Manager:**
Qualifications:
— Holder of a Business Adm. Degree.
— Have Minimum of 7 years experience, 3 of them which in a supervisory level.
- Technician:**
Qualifications:
— Holder of Technical Certificate with Minimum 2 years experience.

Interested candidates send C.V. to P.O. Box: 184121, Amman, Jordan.

Famous mixed voices Choir



SUOMEN-LAULU "SONG OF FINLAND" in Jordan

December 3-10, 1989.

Concerts:

4.12.1989 at The Royal Cultural Centre, Amman at 8 p.m. JD 4.000.

on the National Day of Finland 6.12.1989 at 6 p.m. at the Good Shepherd's Church. Free entry.

8.12.1989 at Jerash, South Theatre about 3 p.m. (weather permitting)

Under the patronage of
H.R.H. Prince Ra'ad Ibn Zaid
and
H.R.H. Princess Majda Ra'ad

Proceeds from the concerts will go to charity organisations.

Tickets for the concert on 4th of December available at the
Royal Cultural Centre tel: 669026
Embassy of Sweden tel: 669177 or 679338
Consulate of Denmark tel: 603703
Consulate of Finland tel: 637117 or 642467
Sponsored by the Jordanian Scandinavian Friendship Association JSFA.

Cinema Tel: 625155

RAINBOW

A FISH CALLED WANDA

Performances: 8:30, 8:30, 8:30 p.m.

Cinema Tel: 677420

CONCORD

OXFORD BLUES

Performances: 3:30, 6:00, 8:30, 10:30 p.m.

Cinema Tel: 634144

PHILADELPHIA

A BOOK OF HEROES

Performances: 3:30, 6:00, 8:30, 10:30 p.m.

Cinema Tel: 675571

NIJOUN

Nadia Al Jundi in TERRORISM (Arabic)

Performances: 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30

Cinema Tel: 674111

PLAZA

BATMAN

Performances: 3:30, 6:00, 8:30, 10:30

V.P. Singh sworn in as premier

NEW DELHI (Agencies) — Vishwanath Pratap Singh, the leader of the opposition coalition that ousted Rajiv Gandhi from power with promises of an honest government, was sworn in Saturday as prime minister of India.

For only the second time in the history of modern India, the country would not be led by Gandhi's Congress Party.

"I will do my duty," Singh told reporters after the ceremony. "My government will be a government of the people."

Devi Lal, Singh's 75-year-old colleague in the National Front coalition, was named deputy prime minister and also took the oath of allegiance to the country's constitution.

The 58-year-old Singh must now complete his cabinet and win a vote of confidence from the majority of the 525 members of parliament's policy-making lower house.

President Ramaswamy Venkatarman, who administered the oath of office at the presidential palace, has given Singh 30 days to prove his support in parliament.

Singh, wearing a black hat and knee-length gray coat, smiled as

the crowd burst into applause in an ornate chamber of the palace.

Gandhi, now consigned to the role of opposition leader, was one of the first to offer Singh congratulations after the 10-minute ceremony. Singh served in Gandhi's cabinet before resigning from the Congress Party.

"I wish him well," Gandhi said later. "I hope he completes his five-year term."

Singh is heading a minority government whose survival is fraught with doubt.

"Never in the history of independent India has a man adorned this office under such trying circumstances," said a Times of India newspaper editorial.

"It hardly needs saying that he faces obstacles that are stupendous by any standards," the paper said.

Singh was expected to announce his cabinet some time in the next two days. Singh's appointment followed the resignation of Gandhi, whose party lost its massive parliamentary majority in elections that ended last Sunday.

The National Front commands just 144 seats in the 545-member

parliament and will have to survive with outside support from the right-wing Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) and the Communists.

The parties on the two extremes detest each other and the Hindu revivalist BJP was highly offended when Singh refused to share election platforms because of its policies.

Singh also has difficulties inside the National Front. Veteran socialist leader Chandra Shekhar protested immediately after Singh was unanimously elected leader Friday, clearing the last hurdle to a new government.

Chandra Shekhar professed amazement when peasant leader Devi Lal, whom he thought was to be elected leader, nominated Singh, who had said consistently he did not want to be prime minister.

Gandhi has made clear that Congress, which remained the biggest part in parliament, would attack the government, especially over its support from the BJP.

He said sectarianism was the biggest problem facing the country, a clear reference to the BJP whose surprising election per-

formance — winning 88 seats after just two in 1984 — was largely due to a surge of communal violence.

The BJP stands for ending constitutional safeguards for the country's 100-million Muslim minority.

Singh said after his election as National Front chief Friday that his first priority was to control rising prices, a major opposition issue in the campaign.

"If government is a sword, it has to be wielded on behalf of the poor," said the adopted son of landed aristocrats popularly known as "the raja."

He also promised to clean up government after a two-year campaign throughout the country in which he accused the Congress government of massive corruption.

One of the main weapons he used during the election campaign was charges, yet unproved, that Swedish arms maker Bofors paid huge bribes to secure a \$1.3 billion contract to supply artillery to the Indian army.

The Congress Party, which has led India for most of its independ-

ence, is synonymous with one of the world's most famous political families, the dynasty that began with India's first prime minister, Jawaharlal Nehru, and his daughter, Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, mother of Rajiv.

The Congress Party has been in opposition only once before — for 29 months from 1977-79 when Mrs. Gandhi was defeated when India's usually quarrelling opposition parties managed to form a coalition.

The ideologically diverse opposition came together this time under the leadership of Singh, whose modesty and vacillation made him an unlikely candidate for prime minister of the world's largest democracy.

A country of 880 million people, India has abject poverty, while also making space-age achievements including nuclear capability and the indigenous talent to build and launch its own intermediate-range ballistic missiles.

Singh has said India would remain non-aligned and continue to build on its friendly relations with Moscow and Washington.

Column

Gone with the Wind fever burns Atlanta again

ATLANTA (R) — Atlanta is burning again — this time with excitement — and the images of Scarlett O'Hara, Rhett Butler and Tara plantation live again in the southern city prepared to mark the anniversary of "Gone With the Wind," Hollywood's most famous film. A week of events is planned that will seek to recapture the atmosphere when the film had its premiere here 50 years ago. The film was based on Margaret Mitchell's Pulitzer Prize-winning novel of old south romance and survival during the American Civil War, in which Atlanta was burned by Union troops. The film retains an immense following and since 1986 has been part of the media empire of Atlanta billionaire Ted Turner. When "Gone With the Wind" was released for public viewing in Atlanta on Dec. 15, 1939, Georgia's governor declared a three-day public holiday and 300,000 people lined the streets for a glimpse of Clark Gable, Olivia de Havilland, Vivien Leigh and her escort Laurence Olivier.

Global weather

(major world cities)

	MIN.	MAX.	Weather
AMSTERDAM	-02	26	05 41 Cloudy
ATHENS	01	34	07 45 Cloudy
BAHRAIN	22	72	28 84 Cloudy
BANGKOK	18	45	29 77 Cloudy
BUENOS AIRES	21	70	28 84 Cloudy
Cairo	12	54	20 88 Cloudy
CHICAGO	-02	28	06 47 Cloudy
COPENHAGEN	-08	27	02 26 Cloudy
FRANKFURT	-07	18	07 63 Cloudy
GENEVA	01	38	03 37 Cloudy
HONG KONG	15	29	21 70 Cloudy
ISTANBUL	-01	34	06 43 Cloudy
LONDON	03	37	08 49 Cloudy
LOS ANGELES	08	49	29 77 Cloudy
MADRID	10	50	14 57 Partly
MECCA	22	72	35 85 Cloudy
MONTREAL	-16	08	09 18 Clear
MOSCOW	00	32	09 50 Cloudy
NEW DELHI	18	45	29 77 Cloudy
NEW YORK	-03	26	01 54 Cloudy
PARIS	-02	26	05 41 Cloudy
ROME	-02	28	11 82 Cloudy
SYDNEY	22	72	35 81 Cloudy
TOKYO	07	45	17 83 Cloudy
VIENNA	-03	29	08 58 Cloudy

Taiwan goes to polls

TAIPEI (AP) — Officials and newspapers reported large-scale vote-buying Saturday as Taiwan held its first election ever with legal opposition parties.

Tens of thousands of police stood guard at polling stations to prevent violence. Long lines of voters waited to cast ballots, and state-run radio predicted a heavy turnout. Results were expected to be announced early Sunday.

The Independence Evening News reported large-scale distribution of "silver bullets," or bribes, before campaigning ended Friday. The newspaper said "the ballot price went up as the election approached."

The paper's sister publication, the Independence Morning News, was sued for libel by the ruling Nationalist Party Friday after it accused the Nationalists of vote-buying.

One voter said she sold her and her husband's vote to a Nationalist candidate for 500 NT (\$19) each. Other voters confirmed that the going price for a vote was about 500 NT, although one woman said she only received 200 NT (\$8).

A fight broke out in Hualien City in the northwest corner of the island after opposition candidates took a photograph of a man who was voting on behalf of an elderly man. State-run radio said the elderly man needed help because his hands were shaking. Election officials said the case was under investigation.

In all, 722 candidates are running in the legislative, mayoral and county magistrate races.

The vote does not threaten the Nationalists hold on the country, but it is significant because it is the first election since martial law was lifted in 1987, and the first contest in which the ruling party faces legal opposition.

President Lee Teng-hui cast his ballot in Taipei with his wife. "Don't forget to vote," he told reporters.

The election is expected to mark a major step in Taiwan's march towards democracy after four decades of one-party rule. It also will test the Democratic Progressive Party, the main opposition party which was legalized after the end of martial law. Opposition to the Nationalists was banned under martial law, imposed by the late strongman, Chiang Kai-shek.

The 256-seat legislature and the electoral college are dominated by elderly Nationalists elected for life in the Chinese mainland in the late 1940s to support the party's claim that it is the legitimate government of all China. The electoral college, also controlled by the Nationalists, will choose a president next year.

A spokesman for the central election commission reported scores of cases of vote-buying and intimidation. Spokesman Ho En-pao said investigations were continuing and that solid evidence had been found in several cases. He did not reveal which party was to blame.

Financial officials said cash in circulation jumped by \$1.1 billion in the past week because of vote buying.

One incumbent opposition legislator accused the Nationalist Party of widespread vote-buying and ballot fraud in his district.

Legislator Ju Gao-jeng said he sent a team of 3,000 people to monitor 500 polling stations in Yulin county in central Taiwan.

Swedish court hears case linked to Pan Am bombing

UPPSALA, Sweden (AP) — Police asked a court Friday to approve the seizure of 15 bags of clothing by Scottish detectives hunting for evidence in the explosion of Pan Am Flight 103 nearly a year ago.

The clothing was confiscated Monday from the home of Mohammad Abu Taleb, a Palestinian awaiting a verdict on separate charges related to bombings in Scandinavia and Holland in 1985 and 1986.

Seven Swedish policemen and three Scottish investigators stripped the apartment of clothing, emptying the closets of Abu Taleb's entire family, said his ex-wife who still lives with him.

Abu Taleb, a former activist in the Palestine Popular Struggle Front (PPSF), was linked to flight 103 when it was established he was in Malta two months before the Dec. 21, 1988 explosion.

Investigators reportedly traced clothing bought in Malta to the suitcase which also contained the fatal bomb. The blast over Lockerbie, Scotland, on board the New York-bound flight killed 270 people.

The detectives searched Abu Taleb's Uppsala apartment for clothes also purchased on the Mediterranean island which

could link him to the disaster.

In a 15-minute hearing, prosecutor Ulf Forsberg asked the court to confirm that the confiscation of the clothing was legal. The procedure was considered routine in an investigation involving foreign police.

Abu Taleb's lawyer Sven-Erik Sjogren asked the court to dismiss the motion and have the clothing returned. The judge said he would decide by Monday.

The Lockerbie incident was never mentioned by name during the brief hearing. Forsberg said only that Abu Taleb was "a suspect in another case in another country."

The prosecutor said it may not be necessary to remove the evidence from Sweden, and that the foreign investigators could complete their examination here.

Abu Taleb was brought from a Stockholm jail to Uppsala, 70 kilometres to the north, for a closed-door hearing which followed the open session.

The judge in the case asked reporters to keep his name confidential. "We don't want to be prey on the streets," he said.

Under Swedish law, foreign police cannot seize evidence from a Swedish resident without court approval, and they must prove its

value for their investigation.

If the court rules the seizure was legal, the case goes to the government for a decision on whether to turn over the evidence to foreign police, the law says.

Abu Taleb's ex-wife, Jamila Mograbi, told reporters that she was questioned for an hour during the search by the 10 British and Scottish policemen Monday, and was called to the police station Wednesday for further questioning lasting four hours.

She said they seized 15 large plastic bags of clothing, and her family had to borrow clothes from friends. Miss Mograbi, though divorced from Abu Taleb, was pregnant with the couple's third child.

She said Abu Taleb had not left Sweden, in November or December of 1988, and she could prove his whereabouts on at least several days during those months.

According to his passport, Abu Taleb was in Malta for a week in October 1988. He told his lawyer that he went there on business. But Miss Mograbi, who is the sister of two other defendants in the bombing trial with Abu Taleb, said Abu Taleb had gone to Malta to recover from a knife wound.

Salvador battles rage

SAN SALVADOR (AP) — Army troops and leftist rebels battled in two poor neighbourhoods Friday, and fighting flared in scattered areas in the north and south of the capital, the military said.

The armed forces press office said there had been fighting overnight in the working-class neighbourhoods of Ciudad Delgado and Soyapango. Rebels remained in Ciudad Delgado Friday but withdrew from Soyapango, it said.

Both neighbourhoods were major combat zones in the early days of the three-week-old offensive by the leftist Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front. The fighting has left thousands of poor and working-class residents homeless.

During the offensive, the capital saw heavy combat, and the rebels began using anti-aircraft missiles for the first time.

Defence Department officials in Washington said this means the Salvadorean military, whose air power had faced little challenge from the rebels, will have to change its tactics.

The military said fighting near Zacatecoluca, 40 kilometres south of the capital, killed nine soldiers. It said nine guerrillas died.

It was in Zacatecoluca that the rebels fired one of their Soviet-made SAM-7 surface-to-air missiles for the first time Wednesday. A high-ranking military source said the missile was fired at an A-37 jet fighter, but missed.

Salvador's U.S.-backed leftist government accused leftist Nicaragua of supplying the missiles and suspended relations. The United States filed a formal protest with the Soviet Union, which arms Nicaragua, and the issue is on the agenda for the summit this weekend off the coast of Malta.

In Tonacatepeque, 16 kilometres north of San Salvador, one soldier and one guerrilla were reported wounded in fighting.

Residents of Escalon, the capital's most exclusive neighbourhood, began repairing houses pocked with bullet holes when guerrillas took over about 40 homes in the zone and another

exclusive neighbourhood Wednesday. Other residents, fearing more fighting, closed their homes and left for the homes of relatives or went abroad.

American citizens were evacuated from the area during a rebel-declared ceasefire Thursday. More than 200 embassy dependents and private citizens left El Salvador on a charter flight arranged by the U.S. embassy.

Soldiers from El Salvador's toughest battalions patrolled the streets of Escalon and surrounding neighbourhoods to fend off further rebel attacks. The streets were littered with spent cartridges, burned-out luxury cars and downed power lines.

One guerrilla's body was burned by soldiers and dumped headfirst into a mesh trash can outside one of the fortified mansions that line the streets of Escalon.

A crude cardboard sign with a skull and crossbones scratched on it was jammed in the wire mesh next to the charred body. It said the Atlacatl Battalion doesn't take prisoners.

Malaysian Communists end 41-year-old rebellion

HAT YAI (AP) — One of the world's longest insurgencies formally ended Saturday as guerrillas of the Communist Party of Malaysia (CPM) vowed to lay down their arms and pledged loyalty to king and country.

Ceasefire agreements among the Communists, Malaysia and Thailand brought to a close 41 years of conflict that cost thousands of lives and at one time involved some 70,000 British Commonwealth troops.

A joint communique said the CPM had agreed "to terminate all armed activities and bring peace to the entire Thai-Malaysian border and Malaysia."

The communique said two agreements were reached, one between Malaysia and the CPM and the other between Thailand's internal security operations command and the Communists.

"We shall disband our armed units and destroy our weapons to show our sincerity to terminate the armed struggle," CPM Secretary General and veteran revolutionary Chin Peng said in a speech at the signing ceremony.

"As Malaysian citizens, we

pledge our loyalty to His Majesty the Yang Di-Pertuan Agong (king) and the country," said Chin Peng, who for decades had sought to topple the Malaysian government by force.

He later told reporters that the CPM included 1,200 guerrillas who have largely operated along the rugged, 600-kilometre frontier in recent years.

The communique said Thailand and Malaysia would insure fair treatment for the disbanded Communists, who began their "war of liberation" in 1948 when Britain ruled what was then called Malaya.

"The government of Malaysia will in due course allow former members of the disbanded armed units led by the CPM who are Malaysian citizens or who have become Malaysian citizens to freely participate in political activities within (the) framework of the federal constitution and the laws of Malaysia," the communique said.

The Communists pledged to respect the laws of the two countries and to participate in socio-economic development "for the

benefit of the people."

Analysts in Thailand and Malaysia say meager prospects for success, changes sweeping the Communist world and perhaps China's reluctance to be linked to the insurgency led to the surrender — a word the CPM has refused to use.

Chin Peng said the agreements were "consistent with the current historical trend where the peoples of the whole world are striving for peace and democracy."

On the eve of the ceremony, police lifted a 41-year-old curfew in many parts of the peninsula Malaysia because they said there was no longer any threat from the guerrillas in those areas.

The ceremony took place at the Lee Gardens Hotel in this southern Thai city 50 kilometres from the Malaysian border.

Chin Peng, who was last seen outside the Communist world in 1955, signed the agreements along with Thai army commander Chavalit Yongchaiyudh and Wan Sidek, secretary general of the Home Affairs Ministry of Malaysia.

Armenians defy Moscow, vote union with Karabakh

MOSCOW (R) — The Armenian parliament has voted to unite the republic with the disputed territory of Nagorno-Karabakh, defying a Moscow ruling returning it to the control of neighbouring Azerbaijan.

The vote was the boldest act undertaken by Armenia since conflict over the region broke into this open nearly two years ago when the territory's leaders requested union with Armenia.

A journalist from Armenian television told Reuters by telephone from Yerevan Friday that the republic's parliament would on Monday discuss practical ways of achieving unification.

"The atmosphere in Nagorno-

Karabakh is that of tense expectation," said a spokesman for the Moscow committee currently running the territory.

The decision by Armenia's Supreme Soviet denounced as unconstitutional a resolution passed by the national parliament in Moscow this week placing Nagorno-Karabakh largely under Azerbaijani rule subject to certain conditions.

At least two people were killed after the resolution was adopted.

More than 120 have died over the past two years in hostilities over Nagorno-Karabakh, an enclave populated mostly by Armenians but run by Azerbaijan since 1923. The area was temporarily

placed under direct control from Moscow in January.

"It's been almost two years since the local government in Nagorno-Karabakh expressed its desire to join Armenia and since the Kremlin has done nothing our deputies decided to act," said a journalist from the Armenian press agency Armenpress.

Azeris are also unhappy with the Moscow resolution, which will create a commission to be appointed by the Soviet parliament to oversee troop deployments in the territory.

Radio Moscow said Baku's 50 largest factories were at a standstill Thursday and high schools and colleges were closed.

THE Sunday Crossword

Edited by Herb Eversman

GETTING ALONG

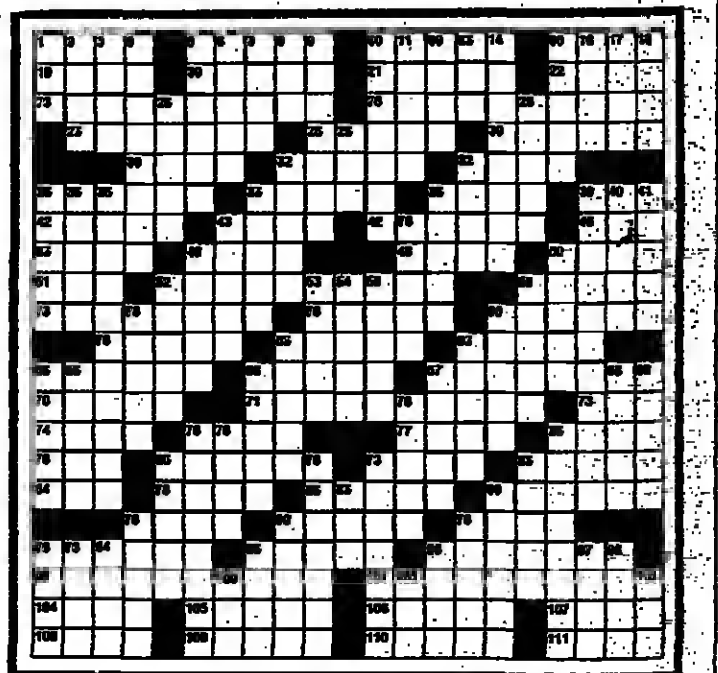
Martin J. De Wit

- ACROSS
1. Famous actress
 2. Dried
 3. "Hiddle Gable"
 4. Confession
 5. God of love
 6. Stems
 7. Ring around the collar
 8. Waves
 9. Antagonism
 10. Make up (verb)
 11. White
 12. Upper stage
 13. Little
 14. Low superficial
 15. Ruse, cover
 16. Slight
 17. Sift person?
 18. Imply
 19. City
 20. Upstairs
 21. Noble
 22. Unkempt or
 23. Carry
 24. "I want to eat"
 25. S. A. C.
 26. Anesthetics
 27. Part of EAP
 28. Fruit of the apple family
 29. Grown
 30. Food, one's
 31. Unwashed
 32. Soccer team
 33. Right a wrong
 34. Fragrance
 35. Went back
 36. Battery terminal
 37. Lashless
 38. Certain ship
 39. Kind of boat?
 40. Sutherland
 41. Songs
 42. Wishes
 43. Quiet
 44. Affirmation
 45. Yes
 46. Compromise
 47. Cow talk
 48. Scale division
 49. What is not
 50. Fat
 51. Sassy
 52. Values
 53. Headed game
 54. Sassy for
 55. Sassy
 56. Charge
 57. Light
 58. Mountain curve
 59. Con game
 60. State
 61. Mountain
 62. San disk
 63. May or
 64. Marlene
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 66. Wagon
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 106. Sassy
 107. Sassy
 108. Sassy
 109. Sassy
 110. Sassy
 111. Sassy

Diagramless

17 X 17, by Adam Christopher

- ACROSS
1. Exchange
 2. Moved through
 3. Black eye
 4. Peace
 5. Nonsense
 6. Place for subsiding
 7. Battered team
 8. First-class
 9. Ultra
 10. Irritated
 11. Young led
 12. Black Sea
 13. Colony insects
 14. Captive
 15. They smile
 16. Strife
 17. Served with ice
 18. Shipwreck
 19. Obscured on
 20. Peck
 21. Large amount
 22. Glibnet native
 23. Capital
 24. Have an
 25. Important part
 26. Childless
 27. Jewel
 28. Peeper
 29. Paddy plant
 30. Lower to DOE
 31. St. cloud
 32. Need
 33. Contraption
 34. Commotion
 35. Squeezed
 36. Wordless stuff
 37. Fastener
 38. Collect
 39. Male party
 40. Scope
 41. Touch lightly
 42. Sassy
 43. Sassy
 44. Sassy
 45. Sassy
 46. Sassy
 47. Sassy
 48. Sassy
 49. Sassy
 50. Sassy
 51. One in a will
 52. Fountain drink
 53. Sassy
 54. Type of poem
 55. Member of
 56. Sassy
 57. Sassy
 58. Sassy
 59. Sassy
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- Last Week's Crossword
1. A casual greeting upon meeting friends may be long or brief, depending on your cultural norms.
 2. Famous hall of fame bowler starts bowling season with a three headed giant.
 3. Party host serves money serving cheap champagne in classy crystal glasses.
 4. There is nothing quite as quiet or curious as a good, tranquil child.

CRYPTOGRAMS

- LITIOYNGUR YULWGF JIFIXELWI YEZEIV
JLVGEF NGJD: "ZENR SGT FRI SGXV
OGGO."
2. L MTO RBIAGC HEGPES JLTH, "QIA CLFIAT
MIA EYOCP JTACI PCI YAFIAPYEA, ER
QEPCEICER."
3. WENPERSOM FRYO FLIN LIPS BOREDOM IIR
FRYO WIEYRS, PI LO YRMO KLEISHK
KRAFOF WIE WNA.
4. N JCYT WANY CRY: NO WAY JSYW WIEYV CO
UNLAW NY UNW, NO S USK ASK S ONLAW
ASK AY ONW?

